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ISLAND TIMES



JULY 2011

A community newspaper covering the islands of Casco Bay

FREE

INSIDE

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A New Dawn at Casco Bay Lines

The new ferry boat has been named by students at the Long Island School.
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Class of 2011

Ten fifth-graders at Peaks Island School graduated this year.
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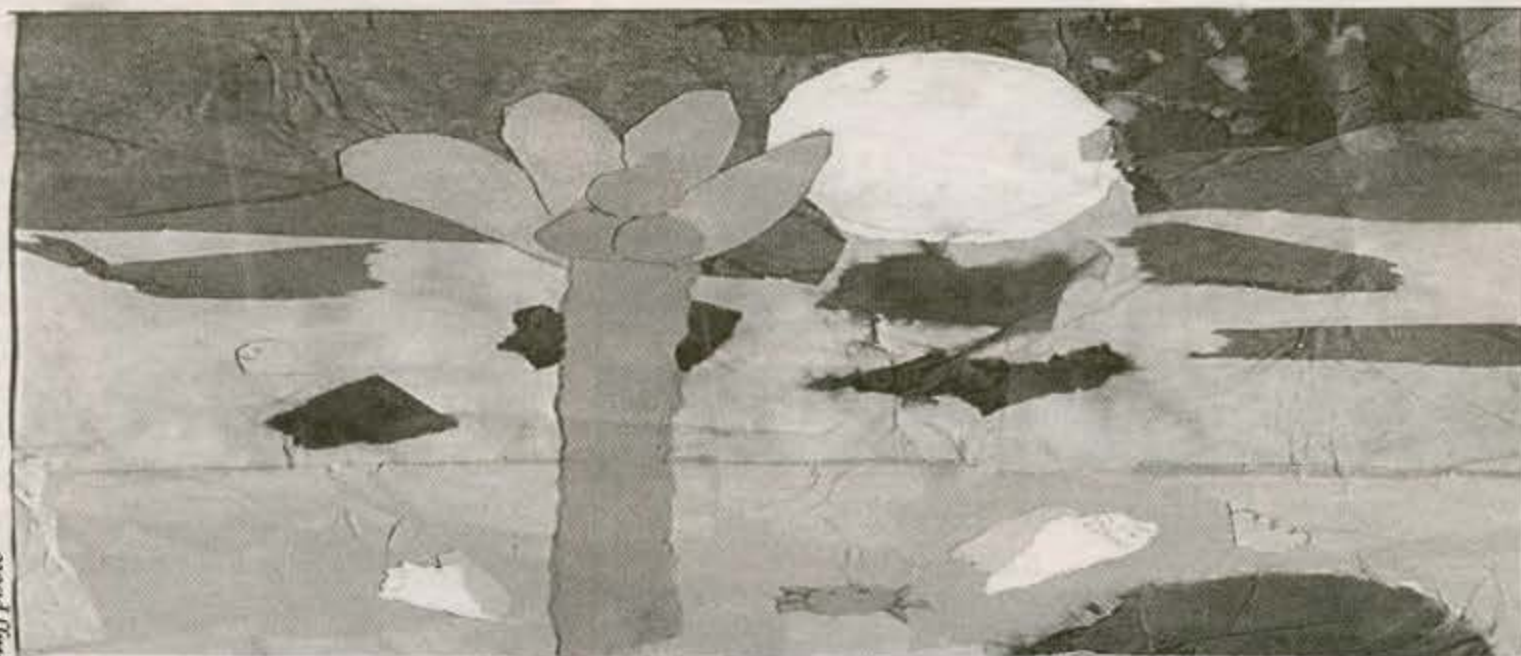
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PeaksFest 2011

Events from the annual festival are featured in various articles throughout the paper.

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staff photo

mid-Summer Edition Here's the winning kid's picture from PEAT's Tree Show at PeaksFest, made by Lucia Daranyi, 8, who was also the youngest participant. The oldest was Dick Adams, who's a good 75 years older. The tree show was a great success and, thanks to Sam Saltonstall's portrayal of a tree during the parade, many visitors stopped by to enjoy it. Organizer Vinnie Demos said most of the images are in a binder at the library, so it's still not too late to take a look.

Children's Workshop shrinks to survive

BY KEVIN ATTRA

Board members of the Peaks Island Children's Workshop held a public meeting at the facility on Thursday, June 16 to explain radical changes to the operation of the childcare center, including the dismissal of its entire staff.

In an email to the community on June 9 via the island listing services, the board announced that it plans to convert the Workshop from a childcare "Center" to a "Small Facility" as of January 1, 2012.

It will keep its current preschool and after-school programs, expand its services to accept infants and toddlers 6 weeks to 2 1/2 years old, and seek accreditation as a public pre-K site for 4-year-olds. The Explorer Camp will become a separate business.

These changes have come as a result of several years of desperate scrambling for revenue in the wake of declining state, city and county funding, as well as falling enrollment.

"For the next three years approximately, we are looking at classes of under a half-dozen children," said board President Gail Trefethen-Kelley. "Looking at the enrolment, looking at island demographics, has warranted a change on our part to keep the doors open to serve the island community."

"The model that the board has come up with, this Small Facility model, will allow us to keep our doors open."

Trefethen-Kelley said that over the last 10 years the Workshop had lost approximately \$80,000 in funding. In January 2009, the board faced a \$15,000 deficit.

"It was a shortfall that we knew would only increase," she said. In fact, she reported that the deficit is now over \$30,000 as of March 31.

Interim Director Lori Freid Moses said the change would save the Workshop \$60,000 a year. Approximately 19 percent of funding for the PICW comes from United Way, which she said is too high to be sustainable.

She said that United Way representatives told her as much in a review meeting this year; however, the charity's yearly \$40,000 grant is critical to the survival of the Workshop.

According to board member Christina Foster, the board was able to salvage United Way support by promising to make the Workshop a more self-sustaining operation. The charity agreed to keep funding at the same level for the next two years if the PICW restructures as a Small Facility.

The most controversial part of the decision has been the complete elimination of the current staff whose positions are being erased under the new model, a change that was only hinted at in the June 9 notification.

"While the staffing model will change to support the new organizational structure, all members of the present Workshop staff have been invited to apply for the new positions," it read.

Most of the staff have been with the childcare center for decades. Staff members Jon Kelso and his wife, Angie, helped create the facility in the 1970s and Kristen Chalmers joined soon after.

"What we're doing is we're eliminating all of the positions and then we're creating new positions because they're different," Freid Moses explained.

"In other words, you're doing what L.L. Bean and what big corporations do," said Catherine Plante. "They do away with the



Parents and board members listen interim Director Lori Freid Moses (far right in white) explaining programming changes at the Children's Workshop on June 16.

staff photo

job and tell them, 'Oh well, you can reapply at entry level and then you can work for us again.' That's a real slap in the face to anyone in this community, especially somebody at retirement age."

Former board member Al Bleau resigned at the June 8 board meeting in protest, claiming that the staff was more than qualified under the new accreditation rules.

At the community meeting, Catherine Plante, who said she supports the Workshop and has often donated money, said, "I'm sorry to oppose you, but this has really upset me."

"I thought I was supporting the community daycare center, workshop, whatever you call it, which means Jon, Angie, Kristen and lately Jen, who's been with us for eight years."

However, Freid Moses said, "I must say that the board spent a gazillion hours really looking at different ways to keep the current model sustainable."

Some people said they were shocked to learn of the reorganization, feeling that the

announced changes came out of nowhere.

"One of my issues is that the community has not been involved," said Suellen Roberts. "It's been a secret thing between the board, and I don't mean that in a mean way, but it has been."

Board member Christina Foster conceded, "I realize that we clearly have not had enough [communication], otherwise people wouldn't be feeling like this."

But, Melissa Childs, a four-year resident of the island, said that through board letters and notices she realized the Workshop was in trouble "since the day we stepped foot on the island. So I don't understand where a lot of this confusion is coming from."

"And the board, who has been spending tireless hours - Gail, how much do you make? That's right, nothing. Nothing, these people make, and they're trying to keep people's jobs, and they have been for at least the four years I've been here."

Staff members declined to comment for this article.

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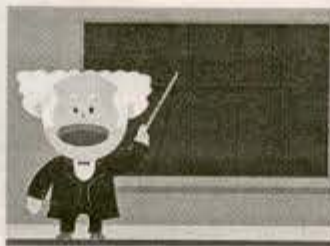
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Corrections

Last month's front page article on the Peaks Island Council erroneously stated that school teacher Maureen Cott had been laid off. She resigned. The article was written before speaking with Ms. Cott and Superintendent Morse, and we failed to correct it in that article. The top story on her leaving had the correct information.



First cars, now bikes



BY KEVIN ATTRA

On May 30, Carol Eisenberg sent out an email on her island-wide list serve:

"Late Sunday evening, my daughter Maxine's yellow and white beach cruiser bike (often seen parked down front) was taken from among several bikes parked on the road, down in the vicinity of the club. Please be in touch if you see it or know its whereabouts."

Later that day she wrote, "The beach cruiser bike has been found – swimming in the Avenue House pool."

Thus began a series of notices about bike thefts, many ending in bodies of water, most often the beaver pond on Brackett Avenue.

From Susan Hanley on May 30: "My son's bike was stolen from the Peaks Island School, yesterday (Sunday) at about 4:30pm. If anyone sees it, can you please contact us. It is a red boy's mountain bike – LL Bean. We looked around for it today but were not able to find it."

From Jack Marrie: "Hey All - We had a couple of bikes stolen last night. I've been all over the island today, hoping to spot them in the bushes or marshes, but to no good result, yet. If anyone sees the bikes, or anyone riding them, please give a call. Thanks a lot." He added a description of the bikes.

Reports of finding bikes, in the pond or otherwise, started coming in later.

From Celeste Bridgeford: "We saw a nice

bike that is submerged in the new beaver pond behind the dump when we took our friends to see the beaver house on Sunday. Don't know what brand, but it was visible in the murky water."

From Dan Hanley (Sr.): "We fished the bike out of the beaver pond and left it on the side of the road there on Brackett Ave. It is a greenish gold Hotrock Specialized. I think it is about 24". Hope someone is happy. We are still looking for our 24" red LL Bean bike."

Then on June 2, Jay Desmond wrote: "White boys mountain style, bad front brakes, Labels MTX, Giant, 250, 21 speed. Leaning against telephone pole at 5th Maine."

In all the excitement, no one apparently contacted the police until an iconic, plastic Godzilla toy went missing from a house Downfront in mid-week.

Mike Richards wrote to Senior Lead Officer Rob Lauterbach who responded, "I just learned this morning about all the bikes that were stolen and dumped in beaver pond. Once again, not reported."

In all, it appears that as many as six bikes may have been stolen. Some were found in the pond. Some are still missing.

The police have been unable to do anything for the simple reason that the thefts have not been reported. In one case, the victim spoke to Officer Lauterbach but declined to press charges.

"We can't force people," he wrote to Richards. "They have to call and report it. And call police dispatch - 874-8575. The calls then at least get logged."

In view of these incidents as well as a rash of car thefts and vandalism in the spring, the habit of casually leaving vehicles of any kind unsecured may change.

Many people have stopped leaving their cars unlocked. Several golf cart owners now chain the steering wheels to the frame, a measure suggested by the police last year after several were stolen and destroyed in the summer.

It may be that the habit of casually leaning your bike against a fence is also a thing of the past.

On June 12 Scott Kelley wrote, "Attention! Another misplaced bike found! Men's Diamondback, silver and black. Current location: Snake Alley between Sterling and Luther. Looking for a good home. And a padlock."

On the cover: Bagheera



cover image and photo right by Scott Reischmann

If you were wondering about the whereabouts of the Bagheera last month, one the two historic ships of the Portland Schooner Company, she was being extensively overhauled near the very site where she was built in 1924.

Last November she was hauled for routine maintenance, but as workers got into the repairs it became apparent that she needed extensive work. Restoration was done by David Stimson of East Boothbay Harbor.

The Bagheera was designed by naval architect John G. Alden and built at the Rice Brothers shipyard in East Boothbay Harbor, now the site of the Ocean Point Marina where she is routinely hauled and maintained.

When Reischmann bought her, she had been converted for passenger service at a yard in San Diego, California, which introduced radical changes to the hull and deck design.

Her sheer, the graceful sweep of her deck line, had been hogged into a flatline in San Diego. That was restored, along with her scuppers and cove stripe as well as some hand-carved scrollwork.

At Casco Bay Lines Board member to launch info website

BY KEVIN ATTRA

On Friday, July 15 Charles Burr, an at-large representative of the board of directors of Casco Bay Island Transit District, plans to launch a new website, www.CharlesAtLarge.com, as a vehicle for communicating news and information about board and committee activity for the Bay Lines and its operation.

Burr said, "The most important purpose of the website will be to receive questions, comments and feedback from the ridership."

The initial launching of the site will feature a survey about the freight service of the Casco Bay Lines, and Burr said he may conduct future surveys on different aspects of the Bay Lines operations as

well.

The website is not sponsored by Casco Bay Lines nor does it propose to represent its views, opinions or policies, but is strictly Burr's own project as an independent member of the CBL board.

Burr has opposed recent freight and ticket price increases and supported the employees' union position on wages and benefits in the latest contract negotiations at the Bay Lines. He was elected to the board last November, and ran on a campaign to increase transparency in the organization.

Creation of the website was one of his campaign promises.

A new dawn

WRITTEN BY KEVIN ATTRA

REPORTED BY CAITLIN M. GILDART, BAY LINES DIRECTOR OF SALES & MARKETING

At its board meeting on Thursday, June 23, the Casco Bay Island Transit District board of directors approved the name *Wabanaki* for the new boat, being built by Blount Marine of Warren, RI based on the design of the Aucocisco III.

Elementary students from the Peaks, Long, Chebeague and Cliff island schools were enlisted to suggest names for the new boat. *Wabanaki* was one of six names that the New Boat Advisory Committee winnowed out of more than 70 suggested by the children.

Committee member Sue Hemond stated, "We received great cooperation from each of the schools, and given the relatively short deadline, we were really impressed by the thoughtful response from the students."

The winning entry came from Long Island's school where it was made an

opportunity to study the Wabanaki people.

"The children really enjoyed working this project into our curriculum," said Paula Johnson from the Long Island school, "These children will be using the boat for years and being able to have input to her name made it a special project".

According to Wikipedia, *Wabanaki* is an Algonquian term meaning "dawn land", a reference to eastern North America, which is generally considered to be New England in the United States plus Quebec and the Maritimes in Canada.

Construction of the *Wabanaki* is being funded with a grant through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It will replace the aging *Island Romance* and is expected to arrive in spring 2012. Please go to www.cascobaylines.com for more information.

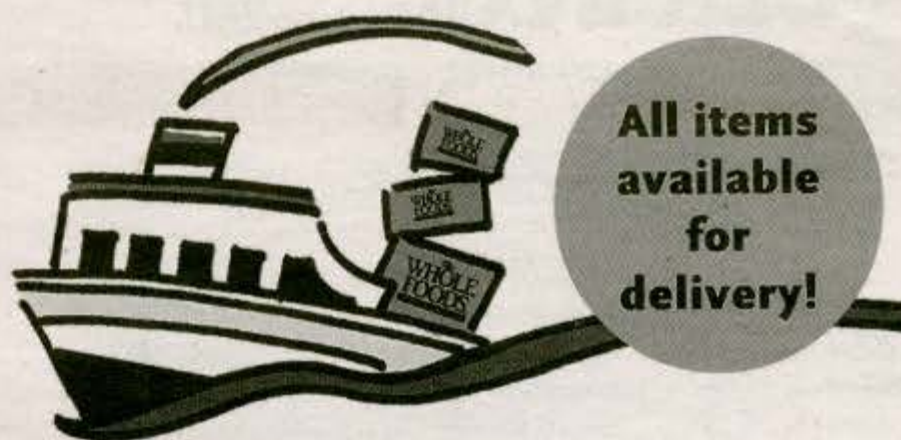
Unbeatable Peaks Island AAA champions again

REPORTED BY SUSAN HANLEY



For the second year running, Peaks Island's AAA baseball team won the little league championship 10-0 in a playoff game Thursday night, June 23. Rowan Daligan pitched a complete game shut out, very rare at this level. They had an undefeated season, 13 wins, no losses, a tribute to some great coaching by Coach Beau Boyle. FIRST ROW (left to right): Devon Daligan, Dianne Dervis, Truman Steinberg, Brady Boyle, Eddie Sylvester, Coach Michael Sylvester. SECOND ROW: Coach Beau Boyle, Manager Melissa Conrad, Jameson Childs, Rowan Daligan, TJ Flynn, Nick Boyle, Eric Conrad, Danny Hanley, Jonathan Bergh, Coach Bergh, Coach Tim Flynn. Missing from picture: Jonah Green.

photo by Susan Hanley



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POLICE LOG June 2011

Provided by the Portland Police Department

Time	Date	Description	Location
08:42	1	Theft	Welch St
23:24	1	Check Well Being	Island Ave
16:16	2	Alarm/Burglary	Pleasant Ave
13:05	4	Assist Fire Dept	Island Ave
23:06	4	Pedestrian Check	Island Ave
03:57	5	Loud Party	Pleasant Ave
12:34	5	Suicide Threats	Winding Way
08:34	6	Criminal Mischief	Second St
16:39	6	Harassment	Welch St
17:16	6	Serving Paperwork	Welch St
10:06	7	Alarm/Burglary	Island Ave
09:56	11	Criminal Mischief	Welch St
10:54	11	Suspicious Activity	Peaks Island
13:59	12	Theft	Maple St
17:42	12	Parking Complaint	Island Ave
18:20	12	Casualty Report	New Island Ave
19:17	12	Investigation	Island Ave
16:40	17	Theft	Peaks Island
12:42	18	Parade	Peaks Island
08:05	19	Assist Fire Dept	Welch St
15:15	19	Theft	Island Ave
17:55	19	Casualty Report	Welch St
18:20	20	Animal Complaint	Maple St
02:09	21	General Disturbance	Island Ave
13:24	21	Assist Fire Dept	Island Ave
22:56	21	Burglary To Motor Vehicle	Peaks Island
16:24	22	Suspicious Activity	Peaks Island
09:23	28	Keep The Peace	Peaks Island

Count 28

Rec'd June 28

Lines from Casco Bay

BY CHRIS HOPPIN

Now that the Summer of 2011 has officially arrived we year-rounders greet our returning friends and once again welcome new visitors to Casco Bay. It might be helpful to take a closer look at a summer program that too many of us take for granted: the charter trips and cruises arranged by Casco Bay Lines, one of the many wonderful attractions Maine offers residents and tourists.

The Casco Bay Island Transit District operates Casco Bay Lines as lifelines to the six islands it serves. The District also provides a full range of services for business and pleasure through its charter and cruise services. These are provided primarily on the Bay Mist, although other ferries are enlisted from time to time.

Maine's Public Utility Commission, which authorizes the rates the District charges for tickets and freight, requires CBITD to incorporate this additional form of revenue in order to keep rates low for all travelers.

Everything from business conventions to school field trips and wedding celebrations are held aboard the Casco Bay Lines on special charter trips: a musical journey around the bay, a jaunt to Peaks Island for a Lions Club lobster bake or to Great Diamond Island for a gourmet dinner under the tent at Diamond Cove.

The Greater Portland Convention and Visitors Bureau lists many local attractions on its website, www.visitportland.com, which links visitors to the Casco Bay Lines website, www.cascobaylines.com, under the menu selection "Water Travel".

The Bay Lines' website includes a wide range of options, from simple, quick roundtrips to Peaks Island to longer journeys down the Bay.

The Bay Lines chartered trips have literally attracted travelers of all ages. For example, youngsters enjoy Kiddie Trips, which serve lunch onboard and cruise around Casco Bay lighthouses or stop at one of the islands. Older middle and high schoolers enjoy class field trips for environmental studies throughout the year.

Springtime trips often include dancing cruises on the bay with live music or DJs. Several high schools use Casco Bay Lines for their chem-free Project Graduations, which include a dinner or gymnasium event somewhere on the mainland and then a late night bay cruise. Schools from throughout Maine and New Hampshire have hired Casco Bay Lines for their programs.

CBITD Sales Director Caity Gildart explains, "We have had several trips from

11 p.m. to 3 a.m. when that coincides with the sponsoring schools' needs," adding, "of course, we have the advantage of being able to sail at any hour of the day or night."

Maine is in the midst of a Destination Wedding-boom and Casco Bay Lines is a major part of that development. Brides and grooms and their families have hired the ferry for everything from engagement parties to bridal showers, receptions and the big events themselves.

Corporate outings for financial institutions such as banks and insurance companies have also proved popular. "The companies hire a caterer, bartender or musicians, or we make all those arrangements for them," Caity reported. "In the past, we have had everything from a traditional lobster bake to a giant pig roast."

During the last few winter seasons, year-round islanders have also enjoyed February Ground Hog Day parties on the Bay Mist.

Each summer the District also holds its annual board meeting on the ferry, scheduled this year for July 21. The Bay Mist collects passengers from Portland and each of the islands as it makes its way to Cliff Island where it anchors for the meeting. All are invited.

Casco Bay Lines markets its cruise and charter trips through a variety of media. "We hope folks are aware of these options, but we want to assure everyone we provide a safe and fun experience on the Bay," Caity said.

One very popular trip that's open to all visitors is the famed Bailey Island cruise, running each day through the fall. The 5 1/4-hour, narrated, roundtrip cruise includes a two-hour stop for lunch at the Island's Cook's Landing Restaurant.

That provides the reality to the Casco Bay Lines' suggestion to "Take the Next Boat Out of Town", and many visitors enjoy it.

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THURSDAY JULY 14

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Award-winning singer Don McNatt, son of Grand Ole Opry fiddler Speedy McNatt, grew up in Memphis, TN playing music from a very early age. He has performed in film, theatre, commercials and most other forms of show business, and has always been a songwriter. He produces and hosts *Writers In The Round* with Don McNatt & Friends for CATV in Nashville, and performs with his songwriter wife Karen McNatt in the US and overseas.

Karen McNatt: "Gospel and country roots ran deep in my family. They tell me I sang harmony standing on a chair with my two sisters in church when I was four. Upon hitchin' up with my songwriter extraordinaire husband, Don McNatt, we started a duo act, traveling and promoting my first cd of my original songs, "Sweet Lovin'". We wrote a duet that is the title of our first cd together, "Better Late Than Never". We are now married seven years, playing our music all over at house concerts, cafes, restaurants, parties, neighborhood hang-outs. We love it and are so happy to be doing what we love together."

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Peaks Island Experience



At the Fifth Maine.

staff photo

Follow the Golden Brown Pancake Road

BY JERRY GARMAN

Evidence suggests that the pancake may have been one of the first foods eaten by early societies. Records uncovered in Mesopotamia indicate that a ball of rolled dough became palatable when baked in a *tinurru* (clay oven) as early as 2000 B.C.

Almost every country has some form of a flat fried cake varying by size, thickness, basic ingredients and toppings. Abroad, pancakes are called *pfannkuchen*, *pannenkoekens*, *poffertjes*, *pannekakers*, *plattars* or *crepes*. Here in the states they are known as *griddlecakes*, *johnny cakes*, *flapjacks* or *botcakes*.

Medieval and modern Christians celebrated Shrove Tuesday, which is the

members of the American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, Fifth Maine Regiment Museum, Lions Club, Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church and Trefethen-Evergreen Improvement Association.

They serve over 13,000 pancakes each year to approximately 2,600 people. Laid end-to-end these pancakes would extend over one mile; stacked they would reach a height of 270 feet (higher than the water tower).

Islanders think that pancakes (with or without blueberries) are one of the major food groups, especially when complemented with milk, orange or apple juices, coffee and tea, cantaloupes, kiwis, watermelon, strawberries, bacon, ham or sausage and home fries.

Pancake breakfasts have been popular socializing events, fundraisers and community building blocks for over 20 years. The 260,000 pancakes consumed during this time would encircle Peaks Island five times.

Perhaps if we rename it Pancake Island, then directing cyclists and hikers from away to the Back Shore would require only the simple instructions: "Keep the ocean on your right and follow the Golden Brown Pancake Road".



ABOVE: Sampling the goods (left to right) Harris Kennedy, Tom Fieldsend, Ron Shaw, Michael Langella, Jerry Garman and Ralph Ashmore.

BELOW: Breakfast at the Fifth Maine.

photos by Jerry Garman



last day before Lent, a time of abstinence. Shrove Tuesday became that last chance to indulge in the foods containing fat, butter and eggs (the pancake) not allowed in Lent.

With eggs reflecting creation, flour the staff of life, salt wholesomeness and milk purity, the pancake was identified with prosperity and longevity. Shrove Tuesday easily became Pancake Day, the day before Ash Wednesday.

Six island organizations have chosen to celebrate Pancake Day at least 13 times each year, with each group claiming secret ingredients for their product:



ABOVE: Larry Blake rolls in with a tray at the Lions Club.

staff photo

For the love of Peaks!

Profiles by Fran Houston

Normand P. Provost



photo by Fran Houston

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TIME TO BE.
TIME TO ENJOY SITTING ON THE
SHORE,
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WIND AND WAVES
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TO LET YOU KNOW AGAIN WHO
YOU ARE
WITHIN YOURSELF ONCE AGAIN.

TO BE AS THE TIDE, EVER
CHANGING,
AS OUR LIVES.

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COMES WITH TOMORROW,
AS A NEW TIDE KNOWS NOT
WHAT IT BRINGS TO THESE
SHORES.
IT IS ITS OWN,
UNKNOWN AND UNPLANNED.

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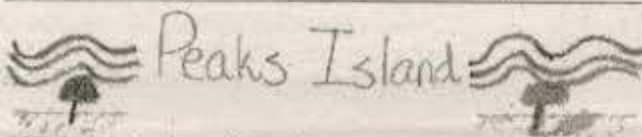
Letters

Winning Dessert Recipe

The 10th annual PeaksFest Dessert and Baking Contest winner is Ella Mae Eastman for her entry of "Rosemary Shortbread". The judges unanimously agreed it was by far, truly blue ribbon-quality shortbread. Judges and assistant judges all commented on the terrific buttery flavor of the shortbread, as well as the unique, very pleasant and mild taste of the fresh rosemary. Ella Mae has very generously offered to share her prize-winning recipe with all of us lucky islanders and here it is. Enjoy!

ROSEMARY SHORTBREAD

2 Cup flour
2/3 Cup sugar
1 Tbsp finely chopped fresh rosemary
1 Tsp plus one pinch salt
1 Cup (2 sticks) butter, cut into 1-inch chunks
1 to 2 Tbsp honey (optional)
Heat oven to 325°. In food processor pulse together flour, sugar, rosemary and salt. Add butter and optional honey. Pulse to fine crumbs. Press into ungreased 8-inch or 9-inch pan. Use the bottom of a glass to press it down. Bake until golden brown, 35-40 minutes for 9-inch pan, 45-50 for 8-inch pan. Prick all over with fork. Cut into small squares while still warm. Transfer to wire rack to cool.



Peaks Island is the place everyone has fun
Where the sun shines a bright smile
And the water's ice cold, but it feels so good
Where you lie in the sand; so warm.

Peaks Island is the place where the flowers bloom
Where the grass is so green
And the ice creams like heaven
Where you're never inside

Peaks Island is the place where you're always laughing
Where you feel safe
And the Variety Show is so different
Where my family always has fun



By M.J. Callanan

Dear Editor

Please consider my letter for publication. For eight years my family has used the Peaks Island Children's Workshop for child care. We have sent our children for preschool, day care, after school care and summer camps. During times of family illnesses and emergencies the Workshop has been flexible and respondent to our needs and has provided us options - both scheduling-wise and financial. The quality of childcare at the Workshop over the eight years of our experience has been excellent and all of my children have grown there, gained self confidence and interacted with other island children.

If there was no child care center on the island I would not have been able to fulfill my career potential, and my family would not have been able to remain on the island.

We need a childcare center on Peaks Island, and I support the PICW board of directors in their struggle to keep the doors of the Workshop open as a reliable, high quality and affordable place for families to

send their children.

The volunteer board of directors represents all different demographics from the island (with a heavy percentage of parents currently using the Workshop) and has been working on a solution to this crisis for the past few years.

There have been community meetings for parents to have input into this dire situation, as well as numerous letters and pleas to the community for help. I sat on the board over six years ago as a fundraiser, and while islanders have been generous, we are in a situation where fundraising cannot even begin to meet regular operating costs, never mind fundraising for tuition assistance or a capital campaign.

In a situation where the child census has dropped by 50 percent over the years and will remain at that level, no restructuring will be easy or popular. As hard, and perhaps as unfair as this is, I believe that it is vital to this community to keep the Workshop open.

On the positive side, with the proposed restructuring comes the ability for the Workshop to provide care to infants and toddlers, whereas now the minimum age is 2 1/2 years old. This is key for working families. All employers want reliability, and parents need quality, affordability and reliability for their childcare in order to succeed.

For infant and toddler care, if you pay someone \$10 per hour at 40 hours per week, well that's \$400. And I would imagine that's hardly affordable for a lot of families.

When you are relying on one person, things can change - they can get the flu or move away. A day care center is more affordable and reliable. I am very pleased that the board was able to respond to the needs of parents, who have been saying for years that they need childcare at a younger age.

I am for publicly-funded childcare, but we don't have that, so we are stuck, as parents and the board of directors, to figure this stuff out. We don't have support anymore from the City of Portland or the state of Maine. It's up to us to keep the Workshop open.

I will defer to the board of directors, who have been working on this for over two years, and

support their plan to keep the Peaks Island Children's Workshop open for working families on Peaks Island.

- Vanessa Sylvester, working mother to three PICW boys ages 5, 10 and 11.

* * * * *

To All PICW Board Members

I am so disappointed in your action-coup and the method of decision making. I regret not being able to be at the meeting but was informed by a board member. She spoke about the difficulty in coming to a vote. I am in shock and cannot believe there was not alternative choices. I was also told some parents of workshop kids want a change of staff, a pre-K with degreed professionals. Forty years means nothing to you. Are you all the new corporate CEOs? Not bringing the whole community into this process is gross. It's sneaky. Using numbers to support the

please see LETTERS, page 16

from Congresswoman Chellie Pingree



Supporting local foods in the Farm Bill

When I moved to Maine as a teenager in 1971, big business (and big subsidies) were just beginning to define American agriculture. Instead of small, diverse farms that fed our communities for generations, our food system shifted to mass production, chemical engineering, huge companies, and empty calories.

Where has it gotten us 40 years later? Obesity and health problems plague our children. Bacterial outbreaks in mass-produced food have created national scares. Our use of foreign oil to produce and transport our food increases. And the family farms that formed the backbone of our communities are becoming few and far between.

In Maine, though, there are some very encouraging signs of positive change. Knowing where your food comes from has become the subject of conversations across the state. Families are deciding they'd rather get food from a local farm, because it's healthier, better tasting, a good value, and comes from someone they know. And in some ways, Maine is quite different than the rest of the country when it comes to agriculture — our farmers are getting younger, the number of farms is growing, and most families buy at least some of their foods directly from growers.

When I moved to Maine to run an organic farm on North Haven in the 1970s, local foods and sustainable farming were anything but mainstream. No more. It's time for our food policy to catch up with these trends and phase out practices that have proved unhealthy for our children, environment, and communities.

Congress will reauthorize the Farm Bill in the next two years, and I believe it's time to start reforming that policy to reflect the importance of local, sustainable agriculture.

Over the last few decades, the farm bill has mostly been written to benefit agribusinesses and giant production farms. But a local foods title would create a section of the legislation that puts consumers and small local farmers first.

A local foods title should make it easier for farmers to get their food to consumers. There is a lot that a local foods title could do to break down the barriers and let local farmers sell more local food. Just a few ideas include:

- Making it easier for low-income families to use food stamp benefits at farmers markets.
- Making it easier for schools to use more of their federal funding to buy fresh,

please see PINGREE, next page

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YOGA FOR LIFE

A yogic perspective on health and simple living

BY REBECCA JOHANNA STEPHANS

Rebecca Johanna Stephans teaches private yoga lessons on Peaks Island and in Portland, and weekly yoga classes on Peaks Island. You may direct your comments, inquiries or column ideas to 207-766-5547 or rebecca.stephans@gmail.com.

When I first moved to Peaks Island in February of 1999, I immediately purchased a wheeled cart to aid in schlepping my belongings back and forth to Tolman Heights. However, when I arrived at home with my shiny new cart, my housemate took one look at it, scoffed dismissively and announced that she wouldn't be caught dead pushing one of those things! She carried everything in a large backpack, including huge bags of dog food.

There was a time when her expression of disdain would have cowed me into shamefully stowing my cart in the shed. In fact, there have been times when I found myself judging other folks harshly for a perceived weakness. Thanks to yoga practice, however, I have come to appreciate the elegance of seeking and accepting support.

Here is today's lesson in a nutshell: pay very close attention to what you scoff at or dismiss without consideration. There are gems of information and wisdom for you in that moment. Generally, the reaction of criticizing or rejecting another comes from an unresolved part of our own selves that longs for recognition and support.

Most of us prefer to live in the false belief that we don't require support. I used to stand firmly in that camp. That is why I feel a blend of empathy and sadness when I witness the brave struggle of a yoga student who will not or cannot bring herself to experiment with supported yoga postures. Behind anyone who has persevered and succeeded, there is a

pounds of weight on my back and stepping on and off boulders on a remote trail could become a daunting challenge, especially since one of the trails was nicknamed, "knee buster". Even stepping off the ends of bridges that span streams and rivers requires great focus and care for me.

And so I prepared. I did a lot of bicycling to strengthen my legs, went on several practice hikes and borrowed trekking poles from my sister. Of course, being my stubborn self I left the poles in the trunk of the car for several hikes. On every one I had a few close calls and one stellar knee-buckling event.

Note to self: having trekking poles in the trunk of the car does not count as receiving support.

When I did finally use the poles on a hike, I placed a pole tip carelessly, and as I shifted weight to the pole it slipped. The second time this happened, I almost tumbled backwards into a boulder-strewn mountain stream. After that vertiginous moment and the accompanying adrenalin rush, I learned to pay close attention to my footing and pole placement while simultaneously appreciating the stunning beauty of the mountains.

A teacher once told me that every 10 pounds of extra weight we carry adds 30 pounds of force to the joints in motion. This is a very strong argument both for maintaining a healthy body weight and using trekking poles when carrying a large

take the tent. It turns out that balancing the weight in a backpack is also a fine art. My pack was awkwardly off kilter — so much so that it shows up clearly in the photos. After hiking for an hour or so, it occurred to me that it would be wise to pause and repack but I muscled on. (See previous mention of ego and stubbornness). By the end of the day I was grumpy and exhausted from constantly adjusting to the monstrosity on my back.

The following morning I packed with great care. My pack was well balanced and my back had gained strength from those first two days. The trekking poles had become my new best friends. With my ego duly humbled and with a renewed appreciation of the value of proper support, I enjoyed the third day completely. It turns out that carrying a great deal of weight uphill transports me to a state of pure bliss. Finding a system of support and a rhythm that included rest allowed me to enjoy that bliss state day after day on our next trek.



As a yoga teacher, I frequently hear from folks who are in physical pain. Sometimes I can suggest a fairly simple adjustment that may bring partial relief soon. Most of the time longer term lifestyle changes are indicated. Often these adjustments involve letting go of the illusion of rugged independence and acknowledging a need of support.

Because I have faced my own reluctance to receive support, I recognize the clutch of fear and resistance when I make my recommendations.

The only solution here is to allow the outcome that you desire to be more compelling than clinging to your old ways of being. Identify a passion such as backpacking in New Zealand, or find out what you need to feel healthy and content and then do whatever it takes to put systems in place to support you in your endeavors.

Anais Nin expresses the moment of transition from resistance to release with simple elegance: "And then the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk that it took to blossom."

backpack.

Since I was brand new to backpacking, I allowed my hiking companion to shoulder the extra weight of the tent on the first day of our three-day hike. Even so, I had to stop and rest every 20 minutes.

My back became a precise and insistent time-keeper. At exactly 20 minutes, the thought of taking even one more step became unbearable. And so we

stopped and rested. And stopped again.

My ego hated it. I thought of myself as strong and capable until I encountered a full pack. I became expert at finding boulders just the right height so that I could sit on the edge and let it hold the pack for me. I also learned that this was the safest and easiest way to remove and shoulder a heavy pack.

My hiking companion also showed me the most wonderful stretch, which I used every time we stopped to rest or look at the mountains. Placing the trekking poles about arm's length in front of me, I bent forward at my hips into a flat back position. The weight of the pack shifted and then rested along my back, creating a sweet release very similar to one of my favorite partner yoga stretches.

On the second day of our hike, I felt ready to try more weight, so I offered to



community of support in some form. And every time you buy food from the market, you are expressing your dependence on a huge network of people.

Receiving support off the yoga mat can be as simple as pausing to allow someone to open a door, or as complex as designing the intricate systems that assist someone with paralysis. I made a personal study of resisting and accepting support while backpacking in New Zealand earlier this year. I'm hoping you will recognize yourself somewhere in this story.

One of the challenges I live with is damaged ligaments in both knees. Most of the time my knees work just fine. However, if I step off any object higher than a normal stair step, especially onto uneven ground, my leg buckles invoking a nauseating sensation that my lower leg is not attached to my thigh.

You can imagine how adding 30 or 40

PINGREE, from page 6

local foods.

Supporting improvements in agricultural infrastructure — things like local slaughterhouses and food distribution networks.

Think about the benefits that come from a more enlightened food policy: healthier children and families, lower health-care costs, reduction of energy costs associated with transporting food thousands of miles, and more support for local farmers who can create jobs to boost the economy.

There is no question that the desire for local foods is growing. When I visit schools that have built greenhouses and introduced fresh vegetables to their students, I'm thrilled to see how excited the students are at the prospect of eating food they helped grow. And whenever the subject comes up — whether I'm talking to bankers or real estate agents or teachers — it's clear that Americans want better access to safe, healthy food.

As a member of the House Agriculture Committee, I'm committed to fighting for changes in the way we set food policy in this country. We've waited a long time for these much-needed reforms, but it will have been worth the wait if we can make the changes we need.

Congresswoman Chellie Pingree was elected to Congress in 2008, where she serves on the House Agriculture Committee. Chellie lives on Turner Farm on the island of North Haven, and owns Nebo Inn and Restaurant. She represents Maine's First District in Congress. You can contact her by calling (207) 774-5019 or emailing rep.chellie.pingree@mail.house.gov.

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Rebecca Johanna Stephans has been a Kripalu-Certified Yoga Teacher since 1994. She has 24 years experience in the healing arts.

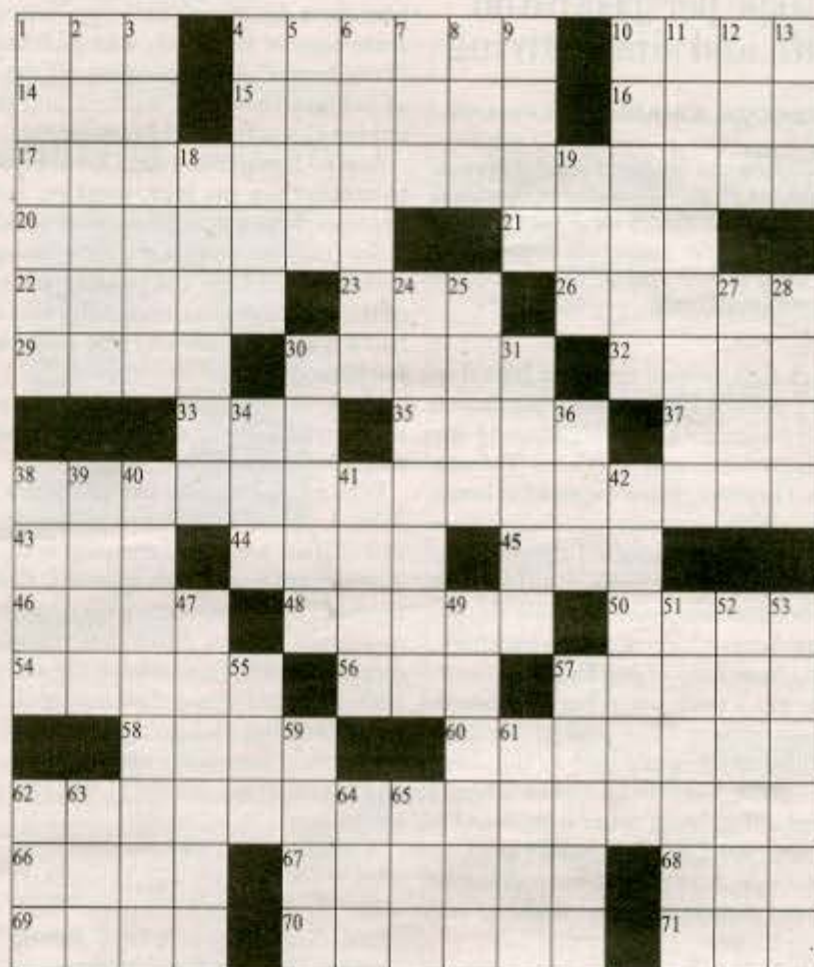
ACROSS

1. Diver's concern (abbr.)
4. Where the garbage goes in England
10. 2,800-mile-long river
14. Hue and cry, in cop-speak (abbr.)
15. Woman's garment
16. X2 = Tahiti's neighbor
17. See 38 Across
20. What egg nog makes you
21. Coward, for one
22. Bay window
23. Demon
26. Guns N' Roses, for example
29. a/k/a Puff Daddy
30. Revoke
32. Girl's nickname
33. Kind of game
35. Not magnetic
37. Spooky org.
38. "South Pacific" expression of utter elation (followed by 17 Across)
43. Row
44. Sense
45. End in Paris
46. Selves
48. He was expelled by both West Point and Harvard
50. His films have grossed \$8.6 billion
54. Way
56. Bird's domain
57. Best tennis player ever?
58. Bird's domain
60. Dishonor
62. Will Smith movie (1996)
66. Critical boat part
67. Wife swapper, in Boston?
68. Brit rock grp., sold 50 million records
69. Current
70. Worn by a grad
71. ID

DOWN

1. Aegean Island
2. Region of influence
3. Spain and Portugal
4. In an excited state
5. Turn sharply
6. Nasty
7. Diluted or well-muscled (sl.)
8. Kind of blonde
9. American compact
10. Wretched
11. Lobster phenomenon
12. Web address (abbr.)
13. Man or Robinson
18. Language spoken in Vietnam
19. Rock group ____ Fighters
24. Unfortunate neighbor?
25. Pop in Provence
27. It was Standard Oil
28. "Better a dinner of herbs ____ a stalled ox..." (Proverbs)
30. Famed Adams
31. Friend of Arthur and Francine
34. Bull in a china shop
36. Whitney, for one
38. Backyard gardener
39. Shakespearean villain
40. Under house arrest
41. Subject of 40 Down
42. "Cakes ____" (Somerset Maugham)
47. Coldly determined
49. NFL team
51. Gets away
52. Pollinator lures
53. Stalk
55. Telepathy
57. What The Island Times is
59. Challenge
61. Playwright ("Picnic," "Bus Stop")
62. Killer hurricane of 2008
63. "Waking ____ Devine" (1998 film)
64. Early gangsta rappers
65. Slander (sl.)

Fireworks - by Anna Tierney



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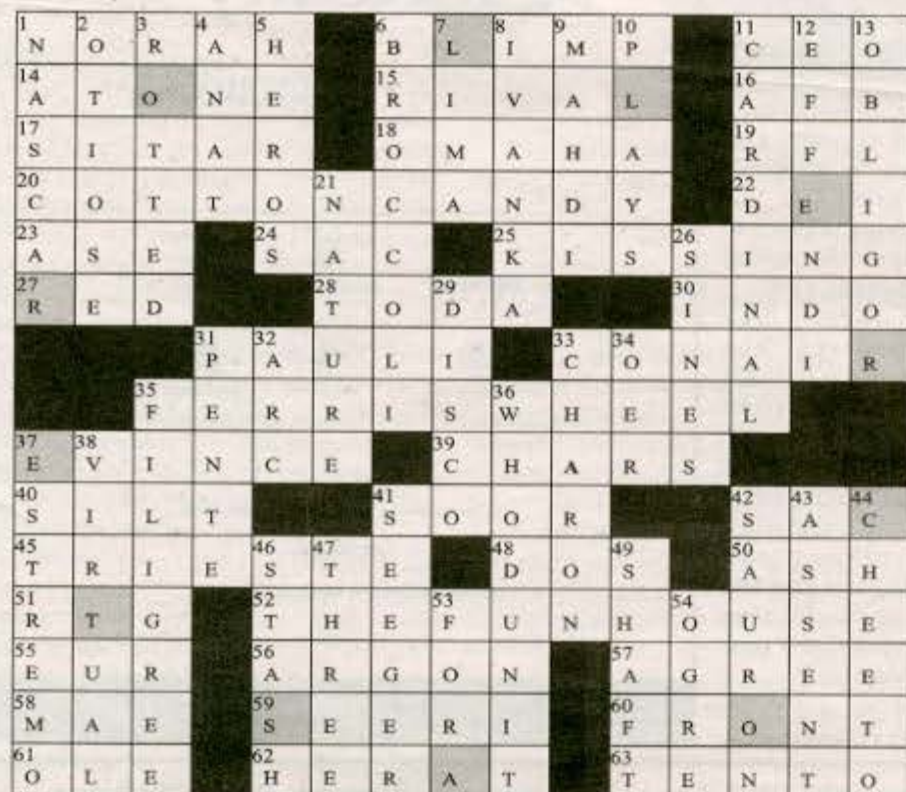
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SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE



brio

by Palmer

WINNING CAPTIONS for June (See page 19 for this month's cartoon) Send caption ideas to kattr@islandtimes.org



Who says housework isn't fun? - Kaitlin McGrath, Bronx, NY

Act now and we'll throw in an ice pick - Jack Rowe, Westbrook, ME

Star Gazing

July 2011 Sky

BY MIKE RICHARDS

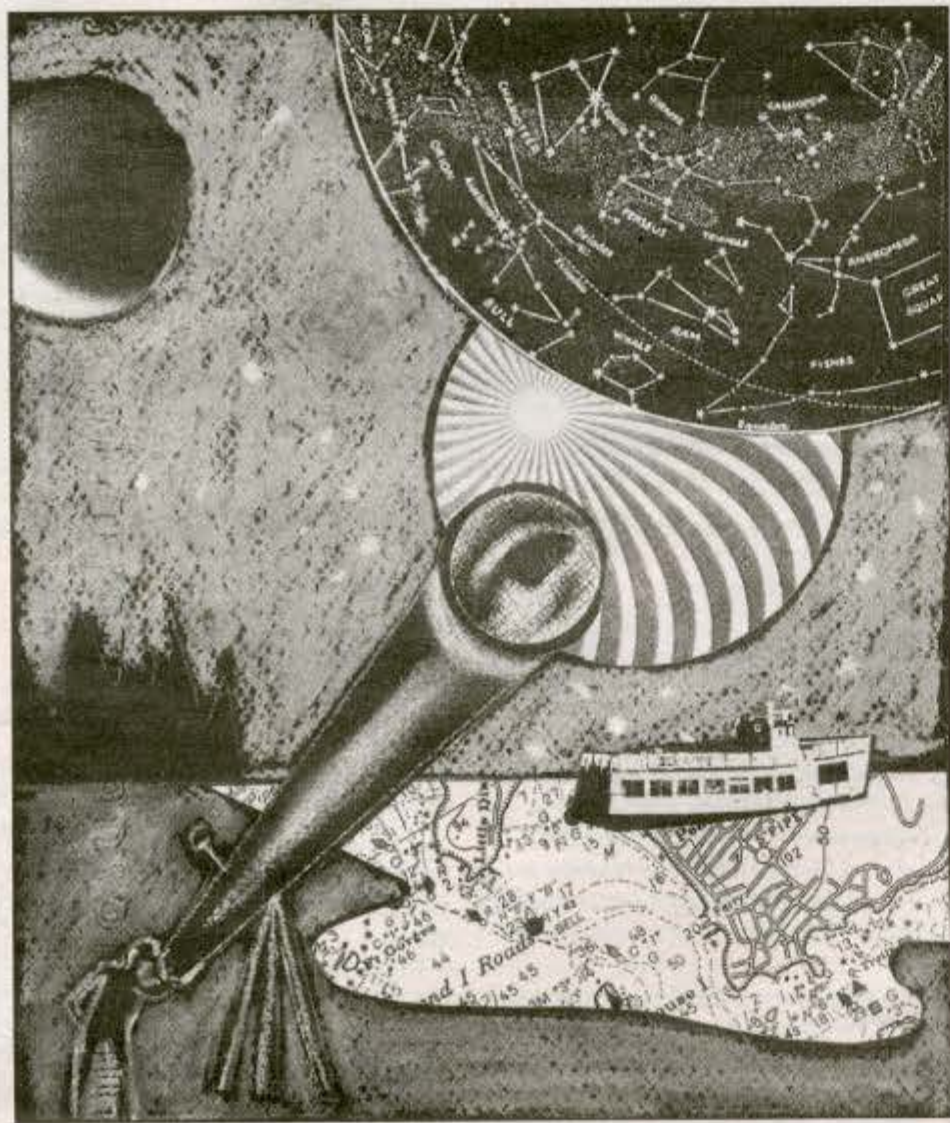


Illustration by Jamie Hogan

Given our recent weather, it's hard to believe that we've already passed the summer solstice and the sun is heading south again, so days grow shorter and nights grow longer. We lose 43 minutes of light this month but still have more light than dark each day, so the north continues to warm, and summer will eventually arrive here in earnest.

Ancient cultures worshipped the sun, and why not – it's our closest star and the primary source of our heat and light, but it's neither entirely stable nor benign. Stars are dynamic bodies: in their centers (where heat and pressure are highest) they fuse hydrogen into helium, losing an atom in the process. Although the mass of a single atom is tiny, when this mass (M) is multiplied by the speed of light (c for "constant") squared, it produces an amazing amount of energy (E). Our sun uses 400 million tons of hydrogen per second.

All stars go through energy cycles. Our sun's cycle peaks every 11.5 years, and we're still two years from its maximum for this cycle. But even now the sun's turbulent surface throws off huge arms of plasma (Coronal Mass Ejections). Most CMEs are hauled back into the sun by its enormous gravity, but some of them escape into space and a few head in Earth's direction, some traveling so fast we get little advance notice.

Earth's strong gravitational field and thick atmosphere largely protected us from them, but our satellites are above the atmosphere, and CMEs can cause major damage to them, affecting the GPS functions in cars, boats and planes. Even on Earth, CMEs can damage our electrical grids and cause blackouts over large areas.

sun's damaging rays to penetrate to the surface.

JUPITER rises just before midnight now, so just before dawn it's a bright morning star high in the southern sky. Binoculars will show the four moons Galileo discovered centuries ago, and maybe even a dark band or two on the surface of this gas giant. Storms are always brewing there, and if you listen closely, you can hear the thunder.

SATURN joins Mercury in the evening twilight. The golden ringed planet hangs now near the neck of Virgo, as a rich jewel gracing the maiden constellation. The rings are now tilted more than in the recent past and thus easier to see.

URANUS rises near midnight, so it's best seen in the wee hours of the morning, using the Sky and Telescope charts. Look for the blue dot among the pinpoint white stars in the blackness of space.

NEPTUNE is also nearby, and on July 12 it will complete its first orbit since its discovery in 1846. Neptune's presence was detected by the influence it had on Uranus's orbital speed, speeding it up as it approached Neptune and slowing it down as it departed, prompting an international hunt which ended when two German astronomers found a "star" that was not on their updated charts.

PLUTO is just past opposition and is best seen around midnight, when you can view it through the least amount of Earth's atmosphere. Even our best telescopes show it only as a splotchy black and white fuzz ball.

STARS

Vega is almost directly overhead now, forming the "summer triangle" with **Altair** (ESE) and **Deneb** (NNE). Red-giant **Arcturus** is high in the west, and red super-giant **Antares** is low in the south. The constellation Sagittarius is low in the south, heralding our galactic center, with its huge collection of deep sky wonders. To the north, the Big Dipper's handle points upward, making the Whirlpool Galaxy near its end easiest to see.

ALMANAC

July 1- New moon means time to get the scopes out.

July 2- Down front around 9:15 p.m., a thin crescent moon points to Mercury above.

July 4- Earth reaches aphelion, furthest from the sun this orbit at 94.5 million miles.

July 6- Moon's at perigee, closest to Earth.

July 8- First-quarter moon is high at sunset.

July 11- That red star below the moon tonight is Antares.

July 15- Full "Thunder" moon rises at 8:29 tonight.

July 21- Moon's at apogee, furthest from Earth.

July 23- Last-quarter moon is high at sunrise and sits over Jupiter in the south.

July 27- A waning crescent moon is just to the right of Mars in the horns of Taurus.

July 30- Our second new moon this month!

PLANETS (from inside out)

MERCURY is easily visible the first half of the month as a tiny "evening star" low in the west just after sunset, reaching its greatest elongation from the sun on July 20. This diminutive speedster will then head back behind the sun and out of sight next month before popping up on the other side as a morning star in August.

VENUS is the morning star now, but sunrise is so darn early still you'll have to be up and out before 5 a.m. to see it. Venus orbiters have discovered rivulets of lava on the surface, evidence of recent volcanic activity there. Venus is our solar system's hot-house at a fairly uniform 700° F.

EARTH is next, of course, and is unusual in so many ways: its location in the "Goldilocks" zone (neither too far nor too close to Sol), its large moon helping to stabilize its eccentricities, its unusually strong gravity holding its atmosphere down, its abundant liquid (v. frozen) water, and its resulting wide diversity of plant and animal life. The more I see of other planets, the more I appreciate our own.

MARS is a small red dot in the early morning sky and will pass through the horns of Taurus later this month. Smallish though it is, Mars boasts the deepest valley and highest mountain in the solar system, just begging Earthlings to visit. It's not all that cold at the equator, but you'll need a spacesuit when you go outside, as most of its atmosphere has drifted off into space, allowing the

Summer is here.

Breakfast

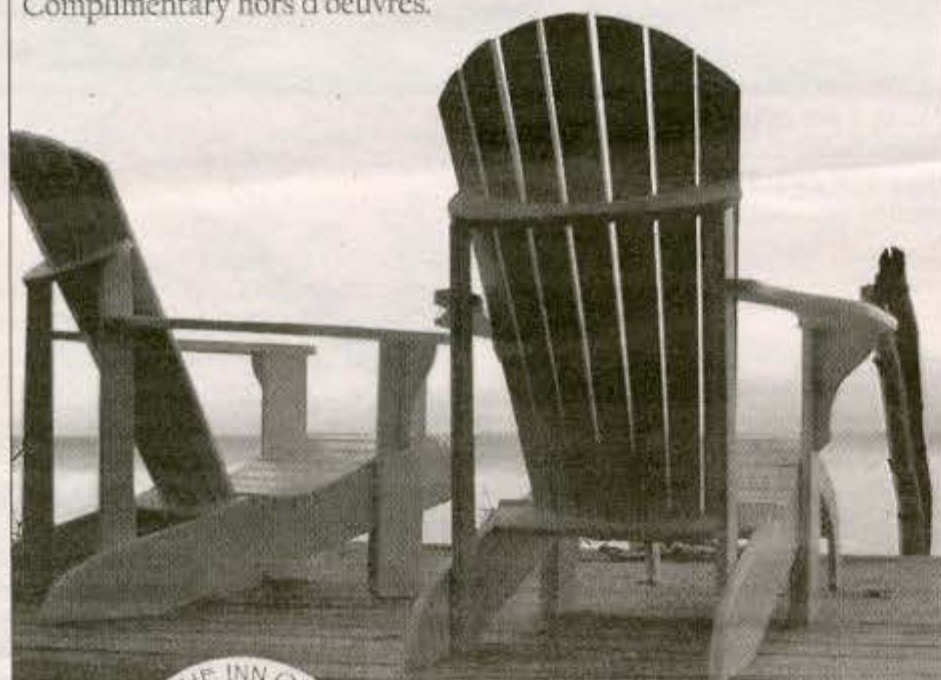
Every Sunday from 9am - 12pm. Call (207) 766-5100 for reservations.

Entertainment in the Pub

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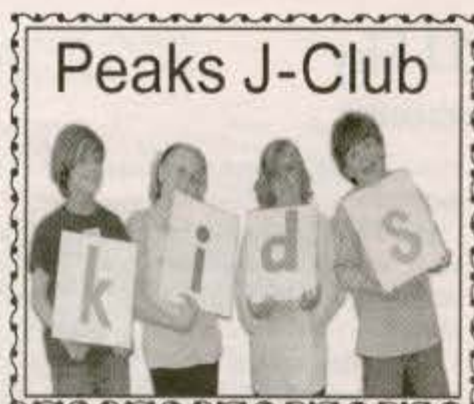
Mug Club Appreciation Party

July 18th at 7pm. \$2 draft specials for Mug Club members. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres.



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Now in its second year, J-Club is the journalism club of students in grades one through five at the red brick schoolhouse, Peaks Island Elementary School, established in 1832. **Members:** Madison Alves, Nick Boyle, Audrey Byrne, Jameson Childs, Griffin Conly, Calder Davis, Maisy Davis, Dianne Dervis, Gabi Dumas, Dudley Holdridge, Ilo Holdridge, Eleanor Johnson, Isabella Levine, Elisa Membreno, Anna Mitchell, Eddie Sylvester, Ishmael Sylvester, East Underwood, Phineas Underwood, Kaethe Marie Wilson, Maisie Winter. **Advisors:** Diane Eacret, Editor; Lisa Peñalver, Art Director; Sandra Lucas. Contact: peaksjclub@gmail.com.

Journey to Fluffy World

BY KAETHE MARIE WILSON, GRADE 2

Hi, my name is Fluffy. I am a lemur. A special kind of lemur called a fluffy lemur. I have a big head, a fluffy tail and feet that look like hands.



I am 7 years old. My mommy says seven is a magic number. I want to be 7 for my whole life.



I am on my way to Fluffy World, which is where I live. That is also where my mommy and daddy live. My mommy and daddy are the same kind of lemur as I am. I am adopted by my mommy and daddy.

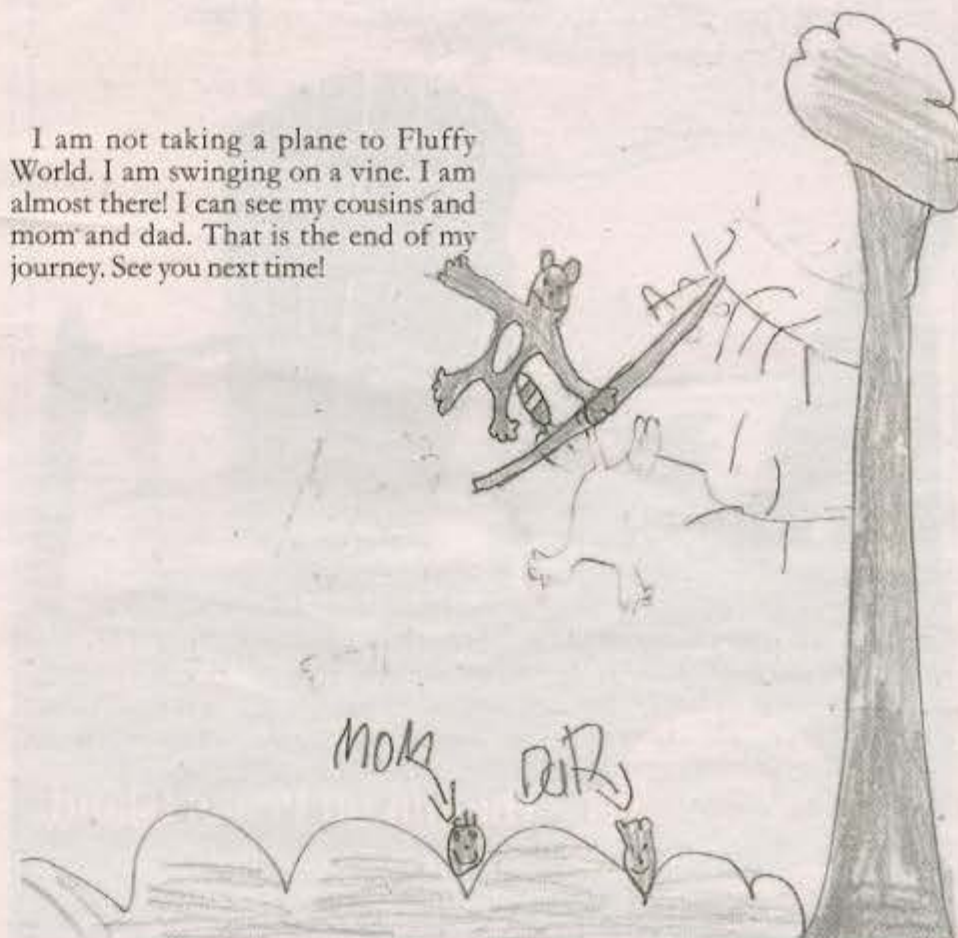
MOM



When I get to Fluffy World, my mommy and I will go out and look for some celery to eat. We love to eat celery. We eat celery for every meal. It is our favorite thing!



I am not taking a plane to Fluffy World. I am swinging on a vine. I am almost there! I can see my cousins and mom and dad. That is the end of my journey. See you next time!



What Being an American Means to Me

BY JONATHAN BERGH, GRADE 6



The American Legion Post 142 on Peaks Island sponsors an annual essay competition for fifth grade students. This year's topic was "Americanism." Second and third place honors went to Danny Hanley and Nicholas Boyle, respectively. The winning essay, by Jonathan Bergh, is printed here.

I think being an American means I have choices, opportunities and responsibilities.

America provides us with many choices. I can choose my religion, what political party I want to be in, whether I want to be in the military, where I want to live, how I want to be educated and so much more.

America also offers all of us opportunities. If you work smart enough and hard enough you can be anyone you want to be. We also have the opportunity to be educated, receive healthcare, speak freely and travel.

In addition, in America we have certain responsibilities. These responsibilities include voting, caring for the less fortunate, taking care of the planet and supporting the United States Constitution.

This is why I am fortunate. I live in a country that gives me the liberties of choice, opportunity and responsibility.

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Summer 2011

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Common Hounds, Uncommon Fun



Contestants line up in the shade at the Lions Club on Peaks Island for the Common Hound Fair.

staff photo

BY DIANNE DERVIS, GRADE 6
(WITH DIANE EACRET)

There is a saying that every dog has his day. This year that day was June 18. The 2011 Common Hound Fair was the ninth for PeaksFest and the first for me. George Rosol, who used to drive the school van and is famous for the stories he told there and in his old Island Times column (now collected in a book), came up with the idea for the show in 2003.

If the name of the event reminds you of the Common Ground Fair, that's the point and a George Rosol pun. Although he and his wife moved off island in 2008, Rosol has been a

tallest dog, etc. They deserve a lot of credit," Schneider noted.

Twenty-one island dogs were registered when the competition began, with one latecomer making the field 22. The greatest number of entries, a few years back, was 32, according to Schneider.

There were several amusing areas of competition as well as the more usual categories and it seemed that every entrant went away with something.

Best Dressed was Rocky who wore, with owner Gabi Dumas, coordinating hats made out of newspaper, which is a very good use for newspaper.

Annabelle Weiser and her dog, Cleo, won in the Look-Alike category. The



Steven Fox measures a tail, the longest being one of many categories in the show.

photo by Arthur Fink



At judges table for the Common Hound Fair are (left to right) Lynne Richard, Denis Berry, Gail Trefethen-Kelley, and George Rosol.

photo by Arthur Fink

presence at every Fair and was one of the judges this year. The other judges were Lynne Richard, Denis Berry and Gail Trefethen-Kelley.

When Rosol moved, he passed the bone to Larry Ducharme, who took charge of running the show and "has done a great job during the last three PeaksFests," said Kathie Schneider in an email interview.

Schneider, wearing a tiara, served as giver of prizes and general dogsbody. "I basically help out at the Fair," she said, adding "I'm the one who obtains all the prizes, so I get to shop!"

Steve Fox and Ellis Ducharme "got the dogs lined up and marching in front of the judges (no easy task!) and helped out by measuring for the shortest tail,

Top Dog was Moses and the dog with Shortest Tail was Leslie Schiff's Muffy, who has no tail at all.

Audrey Byrne's dog Belle, who is part coyote, showed dignity by refusing to perform in the Tricks section, but won Weirdest Mix.

The most unusual award was a bottle of Heinz ketchup.

"It sounds like a weird prize," Schneider explained, "but 'Heinz' is an old term for a dog that has so many mixes of breeds that it is hard to tell what the breeds might be, but the end result is a pretty original dog. There was a sauce called Heinz 57 that was a mix of that many ingredients."



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Pages 12 & 13 assembled and articles written by R Wingfield unless otherwise noted. Contact me with ideas, news or information on the topics proposed at bottom of this page, especially as relates to the islands. Contact me also for help in creating your Island Times ad. rondadale@islandtimes.org.

Music Seen & Heard on Peaks Songwriters at the Fifth Maine

Ask Phil Daligan why he single-handedly took on the huge task of bringing a high-caliber folk music summer concert series to Peaks Island and he'll tell you, in his charming native-English accent,

"Simple: music's in my life and I believe it should be in everyone's life."

Now in its fourth year, the *Songwriters By the Sea* concert series presents contemporary and traditional folk musicians, local and 'from away', in the intimate setting of the Fifth Maine museum, a beautiful venue situated on the southern shore of Peaks with a wrap-around porch and spectacular views.

"I saw the opportunity on the island to produce music with friends, in a building which has already seen a lot of great music," Phil elaborated. "It's a natural mix. I mean, I live and work, I have a family, I don't want to spend my life driving 'round the country working coffee houses. I can play to my heart's content and be around music right here on the island by running a series."

The musicians on the bill throughout the summer are either local performers Phil meets via his involvement in Portland's folk scene, chiefly the Maine Songwriters Association, or others he comes across in his travels to and participation in such events as the annual Northeast Regional Folk Alliance (NERFA) in upstate New York and the annual Kerrville Folk Festival in Kerrville, Texas.

"I try to do half and half - to mix local and people from away," Phil said.

Booking some acts requires spending a good bit of time on the internet checking out who's on tour, if they will be coming to Portland or close-by at some point, and if they are interested in adding a performance on Peaks to their touring schedule.

"Just for a very small amount of money and a meal and somewhere to stay it's probably worth them doing it," Phil explains, "rather than sit in a hotel and wait for the next gig. I spend all winter sometimes, emailing. It's a lot of work."

All aspects of putting on the series - from booking to promoting to arranging transportation and accommodations for performers to hauling his own sound system for every show, setting it up, running it, breaking it down to setting up the room to providing refreshments - are handled by Phil.

This year an anonymous donor stepped forward to help cover Phil's costs, "Basically otherwise the show wouldn't go on," he said.

He continued, "I'm totally serious about paying musicians; it's their living. And even though there's a large percentage of people on this island who support art, we're still an island with a finite number of people. With the best will in the world you're not going to get bums on the seats." That's the British definition of 'bums', meaning behinds.

As far as any profit for himself? "I think I've made a 6-pack in three years," he laughed. "That's music, right?"

The show this past June 16 featured Connor Garvey, Vanessa Torres and Putnam Smith, three accomplished, touring local performers and recording artists. They played in a round-robin format, and sometimes chimed in on each others' tunes with backing vocals or accompanying instrumentation.

All three artists have appeared in the *Songwriters By the Sea* series in past years, and all three expressed appreciation for the venue.

Putnam Smith commented, "It is such a wonderful space just to come to. The acoustics are great; it's a really good feeling in this room."

Vanessa Torres loves coming out to the island to play.

"First of all there's Phil; he's just such a great guy," she said. "I love Peaks, I love the room and I love Putnam and Connor, so there's really nothing to complain about."

Connor Garvey had similar feelings on



Songwriters By The Sea concert June 16 at the Fifth Maine. Performers left-to-right: Connor Garvey, Vanessa Torres, Putnam Smith.

photo by Kevin Attra

being included again in this series.

"Last summer I was in the middle of about 45 shows across the country," he said, "out to Bainbridge Island and back, and this was one of my favorite shows of the entire summer."

"I love the community that's built in this room. This community is really engaged; it's really alive. And it feels like it's coming from a place of appreciation both in the audience and in the performers."

"And this setting - this room - it feels like you're in an old piano. The wood is so rich, and the sound is fantastic."

Though there wasn't time for his own material in the June 16 concert, Phil Daligan is a songwriter and performer as well, and usually opens the shows with a set of his accomplished fingerpicking-style playing and deeply thoughtful, image-packed poetic tunes. His voice is gravelly, unique, heartfelt and his English charm shines through in the between-songs repartee.

One of the meaningful aspects of catching a show in an intimate setting such as the Fifth Maine is not only being privy to the up-close banter amongst the performers and between them and the audience but also there is easy access to the artists in the intermission and after the show. The performers are often friendly and happy to talk about their music, their travels, their process, their recordings, their plans.

Though Connor Garvey is a local musician, Phil first booked him in the series after spending a week with him at Kerrville a couple years back. During the intermission I sidled up in the middle of an exchange Connor was having with an audience member about how the inspiration for song writing happens.

Audience Member [AM]: "... and I'm a scientist by training, so I have to understand where the source comes from. Your brain or your heart?"

[CG]: "It comes from the lived experience, for me. I write my life, and I don't write too many songs from outside of my lived experience."

[AM]: "Your heart speaks to your brain and then it goes to your body."

[CG]: "You know what I find happens more than that? My heart speaks through the instrument and through - like, it just gets out, and my brain processes what just happened and then brings it back in and tries to craft it. It starts from the heart, and then it gets crafted in the brain."

"It's hard to have a completely cranial song and actually want to play it."

Connor is finishing up another album right now and plans to begin touring again later in the summer.

At one point Putnam Smith told the audience, "I took a big risk, sent my second

I co-wrote this song with, who is a farmer first and foremost - lives up in the middle of Maine, about the state of family farms. 'Goldrush' is the name of a variety of apple."

The well-worn banjo Putnam played is the same one his father played, and his father's father before that, putting the banjo's origin some time in the 1880s. An audience member asked if he felt the spirit of his great grandfather when he played it and Putnam answered, "You know, I do. In fact, my mom just told me recently that he also kept bees." Putnam had already titled his third album *We Could Be Beekeepers* before he knew that.

The CD release party for this third album took place a few months ago at One Longfellow Square in Portland. For the summer Putnam plans to stick close to home working his organic garden, then begin touring again in mid-October.

Vanessa Torres has been a mainstay in Portland's folk music scene for a number of years. She just won Best Folk Act in the Best Music 2011 Poll recently conducted by the *Portland Phoenix*.

Vanessa's music has a strong social justice component, and her shows always attract some of the most diverse crowds in Portland - always a treat to be in the midst of, for me. I find many of her songs brave and deeply moving, covering often difficult or taboo subject matter.

At one point she told the audience she had recently joined the board of Tengo Voz, a local non-profit which connects the area's latino community with social service resources, particularly in the area of domestic

see MUSIC, continued on next page

The Island Micro Farm

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Paraphrase of the founder of Permaculture, Bill Mollison



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MADE IN MAINE - new hot dog & lobster roll cart open for business on Peaks

One day Peaks Islander Leslie Davis said to herself, "Wouldn't it be nice if people could come here and get a lobster roll that was fresh, not frozen?"

Soon after, another thought occurred: "Gee, wouldn't it be fun to have a cart with all Maine products?"

Thus her new enterprise as a hotdog & lobster roll vendor began.

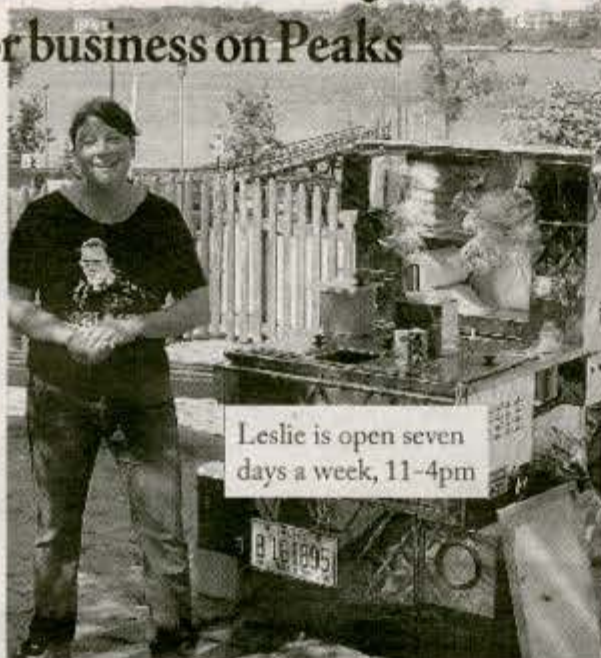
Her dad helped with the finances of business start-up, and hooked her up with the cart seller, North Center Food Service out of Augusta, where he works.

Nearly everything she sells comes from Maine: fresh lobster from Three Sons in Portland; the original red hot dog from Rice's in Bangor; Fox Family chips from Mapleton; Melanie Chapman's "Not Yo' Mama's Whoopies" whoopie pies from right here on Peaks. Even the hot sauce is local: Lost Woods brand out of Westbrook.

She carries Maine Root beer and Ginger Brew sodas (Portland) in addition to the official soft drink of Maine, Moxie. [Unfortunately, Wikipedia informs me that Moxie is no longer a Maine-owned business but it did originate in 1876 as a patent medicine called 'Moxie Nerve Food' by Dr. Augustin Thompson of Union, Maine.]

If you're hankering for a 'dog and the bright red ones don't appeal, there's another stand just around the corner which sells the regular brown kind.

Leslie says everyone has been supportive of her efforts, including Lisa Lynch, her former employer who sometimes helps 'pick' the lobster for the rolls. Lisa owns and operates the Peaks Cafe across the street, and affirms Leslie is not cutting into her



Leslie Davis and her hotdog and lobster roll cart.

photo by Kevin Attra

business at all.

"I've never sold a hotdog. I have no intention of selling a hotdog," Lisa told me. "She can have the lobster roll business too, all that picking ... What she's doing is a lot of work - hours before she opens, hours afterward."

Lisa herself knows a bit about prep and cleanup, and a lot of work in between. Her cafe has been open since the fall of 2001 with hours seven days a week and open for business at 5:30 a.m. (7:30 on Sundays).

Leslie acknowledges the support of the Peaks Island House as well, whose kitchen, freezer and gazebo she uses.

As to future plans, she has one part-time employee, Marlena ("Best job I ever had"), and some signage in the works.

"I've got it sketched out," Leslie said, "I just need to paint it. The four Maine food groups: Moxie, Whoopie Pies, Red Hotdogs and a lobster roll."

MUSIC continued from previous page

violence but also with issues of immigration, poverty, housing and etc.

I asked Vanessa after the show what she had been up to lately. "You know, applying for fellowships and working landscaping to make money," she answered, "Working hard. Lovin' it, though."

"I've been playing with a cellist recently. It's the perfect instrument for me 'cause it's very, like, tug at the heart strings, and it's a serious instrument, you know? I mean I'm very serious."

"It's just funny, this weekend I'm playing a lot of gay pride events, but in a totally different kind of configuration. I have this cellist but she also plays accordion, and I

have a trombone player and a fiddle player, and we're just doing very silly cover songs by like Lady Gaga. We're all wearing gold bow ties and we're being ridiculous. So it's like the opposite of what I do on my own but it's really fun. It's good for balance."

She has been playing shows all over New England but is now mostly focusing on the recording of her third album. Look for a big CD release party in later fall followed by another round of touring.

At the end of the evening the three songwriters answered a call for an encore by performing one last song together, a cover of Bob Dylan's *You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go*.

"I want to continue that Kerrville-type experience," Phil said as he began the last leg of the night's work of putting the room back in order and breaking down the P.A. "This is what this is all about. It sounds really corny but there's a lot of love in this music. And I think that communicates to the audience."

Look for Phil's next concert, to be held Thursday July 14th at the 5th Maine, 7:30 pm. The cost is \$10.

- connorgarvey.wordpress.com
- putnamsmith.com
- vanessatorresmusic.com

July's performers:
- donmcnatt.com
- mspace.com/karenmcnatt
- mspace.com/phildaligansongs

Testing the waters

BY KEVIN ATTRA

"It's starting to smell like bait. That's good."

So said Lynne Richard, environmental education coordinator with the Portland Water District, at around 7:00 a.m. on a chilly, overcast Saturday in June, after slogging a portable chemistry lab and 5-gallon bucket down to the public dock to run tests on the sea water.

She was equipped to measure dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, specific gravity, salinity and water clarity using devices as sophisticated as a digital pH/temperature meter and as low-tech as a piece of yarn taped to the end of a pencil to gauge wind speed and direction.

At that moment over 50 other volunteers all around Casco Bay were doing the very same thing, the third time in as many months as part of the Friends of Casco Bay's annual water quality monitoring program which started up again this year in April.

The citizen advocacy group began water testing in 1992 with volunteers trained in EPA-approved testing methods. "Sometimes people don't believe that citizen science is valuable because they think we don't have proper quality assurance and quality control over the methods," said Richard.

"When people say, how do I find out anything about Casco Bay? Well, call Friends of Casco Bay. They're the ones."



body of water such as Sebago Lake or Casco Bay that it can infiltrate.

"We're lucky on Sebago Lake because we don't have any waste water treatment facilities upstream, one reason our lake is so clean," said Richard.

She pointed out a property on Island Avenue where the entire lawn was being replaced with a stone patio. "They've taken all the pervious surface away and they're putting impervious surface down."

According to Richard, now when it rains storm water will pour down the bank adjacent to the beach, hastening its erosion and carrying everything that is on the road nearby with it.

"So people don't know: replace infiltration potential with runoff, there's consequences. But you've got a pretty patio, for the two weeks you're here," she said.



ABOVE: Lynne Richard lays out the equipment she uses to test sea water at the public landing Downfront. LEFT: Checking the pH - a measure of acidity; 7 is neutral, lower values are acidic, higher are basic (alkaline).

staff photos

On this day of testing, the water temperature was around 55° F, which shocked her a bit when she first stuck her hands in, but actually wasn't much different than the air temperature that day. ("I think I've had a fire in my fireplace every month of the year," Richard said.)

She found that the water had a pH of 8.14, a little on the basic side owing to its salinity (29.4 parts per thousand), and was clear to 3.5 meters (11.5 feet).

Her most important measurement, though, was the dissolved oxygen content which is critical to sea life, so she collected three samples for accuracy.

There are many ways to determine dissolved oxygen including using a handheld stick similar to a pH meter, but probably the most difficult and messy - Richard learned this the hard way when she poured the starch indicator into her new white sink and turned it purple - is by titration. However, it is considered the most definitive.

The analysis requires that the oxygen content be fixed immediately in the sample by adding several reagents that bind it. You can then wait up to 24 hours to do the actual titration, but Richard did one for me at the pier so I could watch.

"My prediction is it's about 11 ppm (parts per million)," she said. It turned out to be 10 ppm in the sample. "I know salmon and trout have to have about 5 ppm to survive, so this is good stuff."

"Fun, huh?" she asked when the tests were done. "That's it. It doesn't take very long. They've got it down to a science, don't they?"

The data generated in their water monitoring program is considered to be comprehensive and reliable, and is consulted by local businesses and government officials in addressing water pollution in the bay.

According to Richard, storm water runoff is the biggest source of pollution in Casco Bay right now. "Water is the universal solvent," she said. "It picks up everything and carries it. So, you've got a huge conveyance system."

The amount of water running off a typical roof during a 1-inch rain storm is about 600 gallons, but instead of being absorbed in the earth it runs off in sheets, washing away everything in its path. "We think of it as droplets. It's gallons," said Richard.

"We're trying to educate people about the fact that everything you do in your own yard, in your own street, ends up in the water. That's what people don't realize."

Every impermeable structure, such as buildings, roads, decks and patios, prevents rain water from percolating into the soil and forces it to stream downhill until reaching an open patch of land or

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From the FIFTH MAINE

They Saw the Elephant

BY KIM MACISAAC
FIFTH MAINE MUSEUM CURATOR

No, not that huge lumbering creature seen only in circuses and zoos in most of the world. "Seeing the Elephant" was a phrase used by Civil War soldiers to describe their first time in battle. For the soldiers of the Fifth Maine Infantry the date they first saw the elephant was July 21, 1861 at Bull Run, Virginia (Manassas to our southern friends).

Though not the first time shots were fired on the war, it was the first major battle and an ill-conceived one at that. The poorly trained and mostly green troops of the Union army were thoroughly routed by the Confederates.

The retreat back to Washington was complete chaos. Captain Aaron Daggett of Company E lost a boot in the retreat, causing him to hobble back to the city partially barefoot. Lt. John Stevens of the Fifth Maine wrote in his diary, "hosts of Federal troops all mingled in one disorderly rout fleeing along the road and through the fields all night ... and at morning began to pour in tumultuous masses across Long Bridge." The northerners' belief that the fight would crush the rebellion was itself crushed.

Washington's social elite, dressed in their finest and toting picnic baskets brimming with delectable treats, arrived in their horse-drawn carriages



to watch the battle. They, too, fled in the chaos of the retreat. A Mrs. Augusta Foster, wife of one of the Union officers, had her horse shot out from under her and was forced to walk the 25 miles back to Washington. The battle was just a taste of what was to come for soldiers and civilians on both sides.

The Fifth Maine suffered its first

casualty at Bull Run. Nineteen year old Sergeant Alonzo Palmer Stinson (left) was mortally wounded. His brother Harry refused to leave him to die alone, remaining with him to the end. Harry was taken prisoner but later released in a prisoner exchange. He enlisted in another regiment but was killed later in Louisiana. Alonzo was also the first soldier from Portland to be killed in battle. Along with thousands of other soldiers, he is buried in an unmarked grave somewhere on the Bull Run battlefield.

In 1908 Alonzo's comrades from the Fifth Maine erected a monument in his honor in Portland's Eastern Cemetery (right). The dedication was quite an event, consisting of a parade with military bands and Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans from Monument Square to the cemetery, a banquet and speeches by several dignitaries including General Joshua Chamberlain. Alonzo's nieces, Mary and Emily Stinson, were given the honor of unveiling the monument.

The monument still stands in the corner of the cemetery bounded by Congress and Mountfort Streets. Several years ago it was refurbished by the City of Portland and rededicated by the Fifth Maine. A ceremony

commemorating Sergeant Stinson's sacrifice is now being planned for late July. Details will be posted around the island and online.

So let us reflect on the sacrifice made by Alonzo Stinson and thousands of our fellow Americans during these Civil War Sesquicentennial years – 2011-2015.




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BACKSHORE
 Conservation Easement held by the Peaks Island Land Preserve

Scenes from PeaksFest 2011



Opening night Friday, June 17 at the TEIA finished off with BINGO to raise money for the Peaks Island Children's Workshop, hosted by stand-up comedian Mike Sylvester.

staff photo

BY KEVIN ATTRA



photo by David Cohan

Saturday's Ginormous Tag Sale was cancelled when weather forecasts predicted rain, so of course the day was bright and sunny.

Suellen Roberts and Nancy Gee were Downfront to promote their new series of multi-media craft classes, *Make & Take*, for kids in the second to fourth-grades.

Norm Provost framed their table with a balloon arch which he built. He said he also makes heart-shaped arches for weddings, yet another of his many talents which include barbering, acupuncture, massage and bartending. He's also an ordained priest and performs weddings.

Tyler McGrath, nephew of Children's Workshop teacher Kristen Chalmers, was Downfront painting faces to raise money for the Workshop.

There were a number of cool items being raffled off to raise money for various nonprofits on the island, including a



The excelsior Band from Syracuse, NY marched in the parade on Saturday, June 18. The members are professional musicians under the leadership of Jeff Stoochham who collects antique instruments. They played at the Eighth Maine that afternoon as part of the Civil War Sesquicentennial Celebrations.

photo by David Cohan

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ABOVE: Saturday, June 18 featured lots of dessert contests at St. Christopher's Church, including Best Dessert, won by Ella Mae Eastman with her Rosemary shortcake (see letters for recipe), and the infamous no-hands pie-eating contest (inset). The winner in the elementary school age group was Luna Soley (above center). BELOW: Booths set up under the walkway at the ferry landing down front featured everything from books to root beer for sale. Photographer Christine Cassidy (below) raffled a cityscape of Portland to raise money for the Children's Workshop. To her right, local jeweler Jen Swarts displayed her newest series, beach stone with inlaid pearl (inset).

staff photos



Portland skyline photo by Chris Cassidy to defray gasoline costs for the Taxi, and a red motor scooter for Peaks Island Tax & Energy Assistance.

A number of tables were set up along the pier at the Forest City landing for local businesses, artists and authors to promote and sell their work.

Jen Swarts, who's been making jewelry

for years, had a new pearl-imbedded stone series using polished native rock. She made an elegant stone skipper with hoops of sterling silver, which is at its highest market price ever she said.

David Cohan created PeaksFest in 2001, initially as a way to raise money for the American Legion Post 142, "but the idea caught fire and turned into this," he said. "Every year it grew. People would come up and say, 'Hey, I've got an idea.'"

He said the planning meetings actually became as much fun as the festival itself. "We'd start in February. It'd be potluck dinners."

The PeaksFest website was created soon after by Craig Davis, an island professional. It is now maintain by another island web designer, Eric Eaton, who has added his quirky sense of humor to the site. This year he used a little Photoshop magic to coax Lady Gaga into a festival T-shirt.



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LETTERS from page 6

"necessary" change in staff is transparent. Negating three devoted teachers careers whose commitment to two generations of island children is a travesty. This is not community building.

Pre-K? What about childhood? How about playing?

Although you say this is a done deal I hope it's not. I am so glad I did not get around to writing a check for your annual fundraiser. I'll be writing it out to those who've earned it.

- Carol Cartier, mother of two daycare graduates, now graduates of NYU and Wayne State who flourished despite having "unqualified" daycare teachers. Peaks resident for 25 years.

To the Editor

The June issue is terrific. I just finished reading through the articles. [R Wingfield's] article is fascinating. I had no idea that Tom [Bergh] was so knowledgeable about the wild. I knew he did guided kayak tours so maybe this goes along with his guiding job. He is a very talented and smart man who is always willing to share his thoughts and ideas. Other articles like that from Jerry Garman are a welcome treat. His sense of humor always shows through. I read every thing this time - from cover to cover.

The article about the teacher, Ms. Cott was probably difficult to write. Your "editorial" is correct. There is more to the story than what we hear as the story is passed from person to person. Once again, the superintendent is also correct. This is a personnel issue that he will not talk about. I found it interesting that you were denied an interview with Ms. Cott at the school. That makes people feel that someone is hiding something. Before she made an appointment with you at the school the secretary should have cleared it with the Lead Teacher.

Unfortunately, it might be true that Mrs. Cott did not want to renew her contract or it might be true that a parent went to the superintendent and school committee about her. The bottom line is that the school has undergone so many changes. Those children who hear the gossip will be upset. They want stability and they want to anticipate working with a certain teacher the next year. Children in the school know each other and everybody connected to the school. Those bonds are important.

I wrote to the superintendent, because I think we all need to make sure that children learn in a warm and safe environment. Getting new teachers and new principals or lead teachers does not give children the stability they need. This is a small island with a small school. These shakeups should be unnecessary. Not everyone would accept a job on an island and those who do deserve our backing.

- Cynthia Pedlikin

Home Start for Star and Island Times July 2011

Have you noticed lately there have been a great deal of posts on our island list serves looking for year-round rental properties? The quality of life we are so grateful to enjoy continues to be attractive. Yet the lack of year-round rental opportunities or affordable homes for purchase means our way of life is still out of reach for many. We have current islanders who cannot keep stable housing and we lack affordable options for many looking to create or maintain a way for new young families to enter into our community. Some islanders have taken the steps to go to www.peaksislandhomestart.org and fill out the application for rental homes and homeownership opportunities.

Home Start continues to work tirelessly to achieve the mission of creating

permanently affordable rental housing and homeownership opportunities for year-round islanders. So where are we now? Home Start is working with the Genesis Community Loan fund to find a partner organization to build two brand new highly energy efficient rental homes. We have one existing island cottage that we currently rent and will hope to transfer into a home ownership opportunity in the next six months. If you want to be part of the conversation, the process, the planning, please let us know. We will continue to seek ways to create the bridge that keeps us connected to our past and plans for our future by creating housing opportunities islanders can afford and be proud to call home. We meet the third Thursday, at 7:30pm at the Senior Center on Peaks. Come and join the conversation.

- Ellen Mahoney

[Ed. Note: This letter was received on Flag Day, June 14. It is published with permission.]

Happy Flag Day Everyone!

The monthly war appropriation to conduct the operations in Afghanistan and Iraq is currently \$19 billion. This sum is in addition to the military's budget of \$700+ billion this year. Assuming that a new school costs roughly 50 million smackerels to build, we could be building 380 new schools this month with that money. Over a year this country's citizens could have built 4,560 schools. Maine's share of these new schools would be approximately 15 schools, 150 new schools over the 10-year period we've been at war! We have been at war for too long and have squandered much blood and treasure. It is time to end this madness.

So, hang out a flag today, and while you're at it, bang a drum, raise your voice and tell the politicians who run this country that we demand an end to the military-industrial complex that is running our country into the ground. Look to the future and send a message of hope.

- Pete Mayo

PUBLIC NOTICE

From: Katherine L. Jones, City Clerk

Re: Nomination Papers for the November 8, 2011 Municipal Election

To: Residents of Peaks Island

I would like to inform you that nomination papers will be available for the Peaks Island Council on July 1, 2011. The earliest the nomination papers could be returned to the City Clerk's office is August 15, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. The latest is August 29, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. The required amount of signatures of registered Peaks Island voters are 50 minimum and 100 maximum.

Currently, the Peaks Island Council is composed of two elected members, Eric Eaton and Lawrence "Rusty" Foster, and three appointed members, Rob Meharg, Heather Thompson, and Scott Kelley. The elected councilors' terms end following the November 2013 election, and the appointed councilors' terms end following the election in November 2011 per city ordinance.

The following seats with length of terms are available:

- two 1-year terms
- one 2-year term
- two 3-year terms

If you need any more information please contact the City Clerk's office at 874-8677.

FEMA clean up complete on Peaks



A Central Maine Logging truck heads up Brackett Avenue on June 13, a day before finishing the clean up on Peaks Island.

staff photo

BY KEVIN ATTRA

On Monday, June 13 logging crew boss Jami Brown was operating a powerful crane at the Trott Littlejohn Park on Peaks Island sorting out the last loads of trees that had been cleared from storm damaged sections of the island.

The other two crew members - there had been up to six at the height of work - were mopping up areas where downed timber remained after storms raging in the last two years damaged more than 80 acres of forested land.

"There was a lot of wood on the ground," said Brown, "a lot of potential for fire here."

The wood was separated into piles based on its usability as compost, pulp wood or timber, and according to Brown, the operation generated enough money from these products to pay for itself.

The two-month clean up was done by Central Maine Logging out of Greenwood, under the direction of forester Rene Noel, who organized the work on Long and Cliff islands as well.

At the American Legion



At the Flag Day ceremonies on Tuesday, June 14 the American Legion Post 142 announced the winners of this year's Americanism essay contest: First place - Jonathan Bergh; Second place - Daniel Hanley, and Third place - Nick Boyle. All fifth-graders participated in the contest and received certificates of commendation. The winners also received cash prizes and medals.

The Ladies Auxiliary has chosen this year's scholarship recipients: Monique Bleau, Neala Broderick, Erica DeMichele, Maria DeMichele, Sidney Dritz, Ellis Ducharme, Emmett Huber, Billy Murdock, Mitchell Murdock and Hannah Rindlaub. Details will be mailed to the recipients in the near future, and the scholarships will be awarded at the beginning of the second semester.

Peaks Island Baptist Church

Sunday 10:00 AM Bible Study

11:00 AM Worship Service

Prayer Meetings Wed. 6 PM

235 Pleasant Ave., Peaks Island, ME 04108, 766-3037, www.pibc.info

Peaks Island School Graduation 2011



ABOVE: The Farewell Assembly for fifth-graders at Peaks Island Elementary School began at 10 a.m. Friday, June 17. LEFT: Kathryn Moxhay presented dictionaries to the students provided by the Friends of the Peaks Island Library, shown here awarding Jonathan Bergh his. BELOW: The 2011 graduates had each made a diorama (along left wall) depicting an element of history or nature. Jonathan Bergh's explained Dionysus, Nicholas Boyle covered the War of 1812, Eric Conrad featured DNA with a whirling Lego model, Rowan Daligan described the World War II battle of Iwo Jima, Dianne Dervis featured the Parthenon, Timothy (TJ) Flynn featured frogs, Daniel Hanley followed the Crusades, Nicholas Leong investigated space food, Anna Mitchell explained the importance of flowers and Luna Soley looked at carnivorous plants.



The winners in the American Legion Essay Contest each read their essays. In third place was Nicholas Boyle, second place, Daniel Hanley (shown here) and first place, Jonathan Bergh.

ABOVE: Luna Soley played Anton Diabelli's Bagatelle, a short, lively waltz. BELOW: As is tradition, the kids willed various items to underclass mates. Here Anna Mitchell bestows her gifts. The Student Council, represented by Daniel Hanley and Anna Mitchell, also willed items to the school. Teacher/Leader Cindy Nilsen presented the President's Education Awards for outstanding academic excellence to Eric Conrad, Anna Mitchell, Daniel Hanley and Luna Soley.



Eric Conrad played the Charlie Brown theme song, Linus & Lucy by Vince Guaraldi, on piano to thunderous applause and calls for an encore.



LEFT: After the children willed items to underclass mates, Nicholas Leong played a very short piece on the didgeridoo in a tour-de-force of the instrument's varied sounds that ended much too soon. BELOW: The Class of 2011 (off camera are Jonathan Bergh and Luna Soley).



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Class of 2011



COMMUNITY NOTES

The Gem Gallery *THREE ISLAND FIRECRACKERS*, recent work by Lavendier Myers, Chris Cassidy, and Betsy Stout opening Friday, July 1 at 5 pm; runs thru July 13. Upcoming shows: **Jane Banquer** July 14 to July 20; **Carole Cartier** July 21 to July 27; **Paul Brahm** July 28 to Aug. 3; **Diane Wiencke** Aug. 4 to Aug. 10; **Norm Proulx & Claudia Whitman** Aug. 11 to Aug. 24; **Janii Peterson** Aug. 25 to Aug. 31; **late summer group show** Sept. 2 thru Sept. 18; **Celebrating Youth Art** Sept. 23 thru Sept. 25. The Gem Gallery, located on Island Avenue on Peaks Island, is an artist/craftsperson cooperative of over 25 individuals in media of painting, drawing, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, photography, printmaking, assemblage, fiber arts and writing. Solo and small group exhibitions change weekly and bi-weekly from June through October with larger themed member shows off-season and a holiday sale each year. Please call 766-5600 for more information.

Dodwell Gallery *WHITE STONEWARE* - ceramic sculpture and pottery by recent MECA graduate Maxine Harmon, inspired by her life on Long Island as well as Native American form and design and shows off a unique application of layering warm and cool color combinations. Through July. In August, scenes of Long Island and surroundings in photographs, water colors and acrylics by Judy McIntire a seasonal resident especially attentive to herons, turtle populations and natural attractions. The Dodwell Gallery is located at the Long Island Learning Center on Gorham Avenue, Long Island, hours follow the library schedule (766-2530, <http://Library.Long-island.Lib.me.us>). Curator Maggie Carle artspits@myfairpoint.net or 766-2940.

Addison Woolley *THE BITTER CRUST OF IMMORTALITY*, images of cemeteries in Prague and other haunting locations by photographer Dan Dow, with new intaglio prints by Peregrine Press's Andrea van Voorst van Beest, through July 30. Opening Reception, July 1 from 5pm to 8pm. Dedicated to the art of photography, the Addison Woolley Gallery features works by local artists as well as nationally and internationally recognized photographers, located at 132 Washington Avenue (at the corner of Fox St.), Portland. (207) 450-8499, www.addisonwoolley.com. Gallery Hours: Wednesday thru Saturday, Noon to 5 pm. Curator Susan Porter.

Richard Boyd Gallery *IT'S NOT SO BLACK AND WHITE*, showcasing blown glass and pottery in black and white with new work by glass blower Keith Weiskamp, and acrylic scenes by Portland artist Jay LaBrie through July 26. Richard Boyd Art Gallery is located on Peaks Island at the corners of Island Avenue and Epps Street. The gallery exhibits one of a kind ceramic art, pottery, blown glass and paintings by established and up and coming artists. An art gallery producing hand made one of a kind art is located on the second floor. Gallery hours are 10:00 am to 5:00 pm daily. For more information please contact the gallery by phone at 207-712-1097. Email williamson955@aol.com or visit www.richardboydpottery.com.

The Fifth Maine. The Fifth Maine is a non-profit museum and cultural center housed in the 1888 Fifth Maine Regiment Memorial Hall, dedicated to the preservation of Civil War and local history. Offering a wide variety of lectures, concerts, tours, youth education programs, and community activities. Membership is open to the public. For more information please contact Kimberly MacIsaac at fifthmaine@juno.com or call 207-766-3330.

The Eighth Maine The Eighth Maine is a living museum and lodge built in 1891 as a summer retreat for the Civil War veterans. It features 12 rooms for overnight guests and history filled, guided tours daily from 11am until 4pm. Visit www.8thMaine.org for more info or to make reservations.

Brackett Church 9 Church Street, Peaks Island. Pastor: Rev. Desi Larson, 766-5013 www.brackettmusic.org; **Sunday Worship** 10:00am with Sunday school and childcare followed by informal fellowship gathering in the church hall (NOTE: Sunday, July 10 Bishop Peter Weaver of the New England United Methodist Conference will preach); **Scripture Study**, Wednesdays at 8:30am at the parsonage. **Choir Rehearsal**, Thursdays, 4:30pm-6:00pm in the

sanctuary. All are welcome. **Prayer Shawl Ministry**, Thursdays in the parsonage, 12:30pm to 2:30pm. Contact Emily, 766-5545. **Taize Worship Service**, Thursday, July 7 and July 21 at 6:30pm. Quiet, low-key worship with candlelight, silence, prayers, gentle music and ecumenical readings.

Baptist Church Services

Sunday Service: 10 a.m. Bible Study, 11 am Worship. **Wednesday Service:** 7 pm. **Teen Nights** Thursdays at Peaks Island School gym 6 pm to 8 pm.

St. Christopher's Church

Saturday Mass at 4pm. **Sunday Mass** at 10am followed by brunch in the Parish House. Religious education for children meets at Mass with special lessons during the homily and twice a month on Monday afternoons at 4:30 p.m. For more information, contact Ellen Mahoney at 766-2543.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Chapel

begins summer services of the Holy Eucharist at St. Christopher's Catholic Church Sunday, July 3 at 8:30 a.m. with the Reverend Jeffrey Turczyn from Cape Elizabeth July 3 & July 10, and the Reverend Robert Hooper III from West Hartford, CT on July 17, July 24, and July 31.

Peaks Island Library

First Tuesdays Book Discussions: 7:00 pm at the TEIA clubhouse, a delightful change in a beautiful setting. July 5 - *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand; Aug. 2 - *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. Copies of the books are available on request. **Summer Reading Program for Adults and Kids** continues through July 30. Adults goal is to complete four books; children's goal is seven books or seven hours. Prizes awarded. Additionally, each child who completes the program will receive a certificate and a book. **Story and Craft Program** Tuesday evenings at 7 pm through July with Mrs. Crowley-Rockwell for children ages 5-8. **End Of Summer Reading Program** Tuesday, Aug. 2 at 7 pm with Jamie Hogan, author and illustrator of *Seven Days of Daisy*, for all ages. **Friends Of The Peaks Island Branch Library Book Sale and Membership Drive**, Saturday, July 16 from 8am to 2:30pm in the Community Room. Please bring books to donate on Friday, July 15. Volunteers needed for set up on Friday (10 am to 5:30 pm) or the Saturday sale. Contact Dave Stankowicz and David Vinograd. Proceeds go to buy books and equipment for the library, birthday books for all Peaks Island elementary school age children, dictionaries for graduating fifth-graders, and funding for other programs. Please join the Friends of the Peaks Island Branch Library - annual memberships are \$5 for families, \$2 for individuals. **Island History Discussion** by Philip Conkling, president of the Island Institute, Tuesday, July 19 at 7 pm at TEIA. Conkling is the author of *Islands in Time: A Natural and Cultural History of the Islands of the Gulf of Maine*, a comprehensive snapshot of the flora, fauna and marine-resource-based communities that make Maine's islands such a treasured part of our state's iconography. **Author's Discussion** - Laura Harrington will discuss her new novel *Alice Bliss*, about being left at home during wartime and how a teenage girl bravely faces the future, on Wednesday, July 27 at 7 pm in the Community Room. Though considered an adult book, the talk will be appropriate for older teens. Q&A, author signing and refreshments to follow. Copies of the book will be available for sale. The free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Peaks Island Library. **DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH'S STAR:** Monday, July 25, by 6 pm. Peaks Island Branch Library in the Community Building 766-5540, email peaks@portland.lib.me.us. Hours Open: Tues 2-8 Wed 10-4 Fri 10-2 Sat 8-12.



Addison Woolley Gallery

July 1-30, 2011

Peaks Island Health Center

87 Central Avenue, P.O. Box 52, Peaks Island, 04108; 766-2929; Fax 766-5073. Open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. by appointment. Kitty Gilbert, FNP, sees infants to adults. Mary Grimaldi, Clinical Assistant/Administrator. Dr. Buehner is scheduled on Thursday, July 7. No health provider Friday, July 8. Call 766-2929 for appointments. Your call is important to us. Please leave a message. We will return your call as quickly as possible. When the Health Center is closed, please call your Primary Care Provider, or go to Maine Medical Center Emergency Department or Mercy Emergency Department. For true medical emergencies, please call 911.

Portland Recreation

Denise Macaronas, Recreation Programmer. Contact dln@portlandmaine.gov or leave a message at 766-2970. Denise works just part time on Peaks Island - Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. You may view the facility schedule on-line (<http://www.portlandmaine.gov/rec/peaksislandec.asp>), but all reservations must be made through Denise. **ON-GOING EXERCISE PROGRAMS for ADULTS** at the MACVANE CENTER - Walk Program Mondays & Thursdays at 8:15 am (meet at community building). Low-Impact Aerobics w/weights Mondays & Thursdays from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. Table Tennis for Adults Tuesdays from 2 pm to 4 pm. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970).

Children's Workshop

Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Child Care when you need it, snow days included! Preschool enrollment for children ages 2 1/2 to 5. Part-day and part-week options available. Infant/toddler Play Group: Fridays from 10:15 am to 11:00 am to meet other parents and children. FREE.

Community Food Pantry

At the Children's Workshop, open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the Workshop's hours. Please consider making a donation of canned and baked goods as well as left over paper supplies. For more information, please contact Susan Hanley at susan@lgscom.com.

All Summer Softball

SUNDAYS - Warm, active play for all ages & skills. Pick-up games at 5 pm at the Peaks Island ball field. Bring a glove or two to share, all other equipment supplied. Contact Roy Mottla 207.766.5837 or Tim Nihoff 207.776.5576 for more info.

2011 Peaks Island Art Walks

Island-wide Saturday Art Walk offers the opportunity to view, discuss and buy work in the spaces where the artists produce objects and ideas. Media include paint, printmaking, photography, pottery, fiber, basketry, multimedia crafts, assemblage and sculpture. Last Saturday of the month from 3pm to 7pm. Upcoming art walk dates are July 30 and August 27. Information available at the GEM Gallery, the Inn on Peaks or at www.peaksisland-artwalks.org/.

Young Artists Wanted The GEM Gallery artists' cooperative is calling for Peaks Island artists 15 years and under to submit

Classes & Instruction

Dance Classes For class schedule and information contact Sharoan at 776-5066 (cell) or by email sharoana@gmail.com.

Yoga Classes

Weekly classes: Monday and Thursday mornings 9:00 - 10:30. (No classes Monday, Aug. 22 and Thursday, Sept. 8.) Private lessons and small groups: Mondays 11:00 - 6:30, and Thursday afternoons 3:30 - 5:30. Contact Rebecca Stephens 766-3017 or rjsyoga@awi.net.

Weight Lifting

classes Mondays and Thursdays, 7 am to 8 am or 5 pm to 6 pm \$25 for 12 sessions. Come join us! Contact Rebecca Stephens, rjsyoga@awi.net or Rhonda Berg, brhonda1@maine.rr.com FMI.

their work for a limited engagement show. Here's the chance for young artists to continue experimenting, creating and even making money with their work! Last year's show was a sensation and very successful for those who participated. For more information about participating, please call Judith McAllister at 899-9096.

Portland Summer Outdoor Concert Series

Pack a picnic and enjoy some of the city's cherished open spaces while listening to these free live performances: **SUNSET FOLK SERIES** (Wednesdays on the Western Prom): Rob Simpson July 6 at 8 pm; Darien Brahm July 13 at 7:45pm; Mark Farrington July 20 at 7:45 pm; Sorchia July 27 at 7:30 pm; Phantom Buffalo Aug. 3 at 7:30 pm; Will Gattis Aug. 10 at 7:30 pm. **CRUSHER'S KIDS SERIES** (at midday Thursdays at Deering Oaks Park): Jon Call July 7; Delilah & Chandra July 14; Tangletoons July 21; Sparks Ark July 28; Sammie Haynes Aug. 4. **EASTERN PROMENADE SERIES** (Thursdays at 7:00 pm at the Fort Allen bandstand): Delta Knights July 7; Don Roy July 14; Chandler's Band July 21; Sean Mencher & his Rhythm Kings July 28; Big Chief Aug. 4; the McCarthys Aug. 11; Banda di Nepi Aug. 18.

Peaks Island Fund grant application deadline elapsed on June 21. Over the next few weeks the PIF advisors will be reviewing the applications and making outreach to applicants. The grant decisions will be announced on Aug. 11 at the PIF Annual Meeting hosted at the Zimmerman home. The community is invited to attend and share in celebration of our Peaks Island community charitable organizations.

Peaks Island Music Association 2011 SUMMER CONCERT CALENDAR:

July 6: World-Class Pianist George Lopez; Artist in Residence from Bowdoin College; July 20: From Peaks Island to Nashville: The Rockabilly Sean Mencher Combo; Aug 3: Annual Island Musicians Concert; Aug 17: The Peaks Island Chorale. All performances Wednesday evenings, 8:00 pm at the Fifth Maine.

Peaks Island Honey Co.

stand is open, weather permitting, at Evergreen Landing. Small jars \$3/large \$6. By request, we now have plastic for those who prefer lighter weight. Please feel free to recycle jars at the stand as well

Heavy Item Pick Up

Heavy Item Pick up continues this month with collection at Diamond Cove Monday, July 11. Pick up at Great Diamond and Little Diamond will be on Monday, Aug. 1.

Hazardous Waste Pick Up

is scheduled for all city islands on Aug. 13, starting at 9:00 am.

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, July 2

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S ANNUAL PARISH FAIR 10 am to 2 pm with treats, games, rummage, auction and prizes!

Tuesday, July 5

FIRST TUESDAYS BOOK DISCUSSION *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand at the TEIA clubhouse, a delightful change in a beautiful setting. Come in, call or email the library to request a copy of the books.

Thursday, July 7

BYO PICNIC at the COMMUNITY GARDEN 11:15 am – 12:15 am. Meet at the Trott-Littlejohn Park to enjoy the beauty of the community garden. FMI Call Denise at 766-2970 or dln@portlandmaine.gov. Sponsored by Portland Recreation.

Friday, July 8

COLOR OF PEAKS art show, opening reception 6pm at the TEIA. Open to the public. FREE. Peaks Island art sale to benefit the Friends of TEIA Camperships for Peaks kids to learn to sail. Continues Saturday, July 9 from 10am to 2pm.

OPEN HOUSE: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE (com. rm) Drop in between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. Adults, enjoy ice tea and knit/crochet, socialize and relax. Kids (of all ages), enjoy lemonade and make imaginative gifts. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970 or dln@portlandmaine.gov).

Saturday, July 9

PANCAKE BREAKFAST at the TEIA from 8am to 11 am. No need to cook at home, let Jerry flip your pancakes! Adults \$6, children \$4.

COLOR OF PEAKS art show from 10am to 2 pm at the TEIA. Open to the public. FREE. Peaks Island art sale to benefit the Friends of TEIA Camperships for Peaks kids to learn to sail.

TRUTH ABOUT DAISIES original folk trio at the Fifth Maine at 7:30 pm., by donation.

Sunday, July 10

CRUISE THE BAY ON A SUNDAY Second annual benefit 2-hour cruise for the Peaks Island Children's Workshop aboard the *Bay Mist*, departing Casco Bay Lines terminal in Portland at 6:00 pm, departs Peaks Island at 6:30 pm. Live music by Dave Gagne. Tickets are \$25, sold at the boat, and include hearty appetizers and cash bar. Free babysitting for Peaks Islanders at TEIA. Call 207-766-2854 for more info.

Thursday, July 14

BYO PICNIC at the COMMUNITY GARDEN 11:15 am – 12:15 am. Meet at the Trott-Littlejohn Park to enjoy the beauty of the community garden. FMI Call Denise at 766-2970. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970 or dln@portlandmaine.gov).

SONGWRITERS by the SEA The best in traditional and contemporary folk. Tonight features Nashville roots country duo Karen & Don McNatt, at 7:30 pm at the Fifth Maine, \$10.

Saturday, July 16

Brackett MUM Church Anniversary FAIR: 9am to 3pm, lobster roll luncheon, islanders' craft tables and silent auction.

SCHOONER FARE CONCERT at TEIA Clubhouse at 7:30 pm, a wonderful evening of folk songs and sea shanties by a legendary Maine roots ensemble. Admission \$25/table, \$20/general seating. Call Stephanie for tickets and info 766-2254.

BOOK SALE and Membership Drive, 8am to 2:30pm in the Community Room, sponsored by the Friends of the Peaks Island Branch Library. Please join or renew your

annual membership to the Friends – only \$5 for families, \$2 for individuals. If you have books to donate, please bring them on Friday, July 15. Volunteers are needed.

Sunday, July 17

Brackett MUM Church Anniversary Worship Service, 10 am, featuring special music and followed by a luncheon, historical presentation and slide show.

Monday, July 18

BINGO is FUN FOR ALL AGES! (com. rm.) 10:45 – 11:45 am AND 1:00 – 2:00 pm. Everyone invited! If you have a "prize" at home you would like someone to win, please bring it along. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970 or dln@portlandmaine.gov).

Tuesday, July 19

LOAF AND LADLE DINNER benefit for Peaks Island Tax and Energy Assistance, from 5pm to 7pm at the Peaks Island Baptist Church. Come and enjoy our favorite family meals. The food is always delicious, the company superb and the chance to be neighborly terrific. \$6/adults, \$2.50/child.

ISLAND HISTORY & CULTURE TALK by author Philip Conkling, president of the Island Institute, at 7 pm at TEIA. Conkling has recently published a rewritten and updated edition of his classic book, *Islands in Time: A Natural and Cultural History of the Islands of the Gulf of Maine*, with 200 new photographs by Peter Ralston.

Thursday, July 21

BYO PICNIC at the COMMUNITY GARDEN 11:15 am – 12:15 am. Meet at the Trott-Littlejohn Park to enjoy the beauty of the community garden. FMI Call Denise at 766-2970 or dln@portlandmaine.gov. Sponsored by Portland Recreation.

Saturday, July 23

HOUSE TOUR and LOBSTER ROLL LUNCH at the TEIA. Lunch served at NOON. Five terrific Peaks houses will be on the tour.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Chapel ANNUAL SALE from 9am to 1pm at the Douglas MacVane Community Center.

WHALES! sponsored by Brackett Church, the Children's Museum of Maine brings its own life-size, inflatable humpback whale to the Brackett Fellowship Hall from 11am to 3pm. This educational community event is free and open to the public.

JAZZ at the FIFTH MAINE by the Maine Singers Atelier, directed by Julie Goell, featuring her father's famous songs at 7:30pm.

Monday, July 25

LAUGHTER YOGA CLUB (com. rm.) Drop in between 11:00 am and 12:30 pm and laugh for no reason at all! Everyone needs at least 10 minutes of belly laughing a day! Led by a Certified Laughter Yoga Leader. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970 or dln@portlandmaine.gov).

Wednesday, July 27

AUTHOR'S DISCUSSION & READING by Laura Harrington of her new novel, *Alice Bliss*,

a story about those who are left at home during wartime and a teenage girl bravely facing the future, at 7 pm at the MacVane Community Center. Q&A, author signing and refreshments to follow. Copies of the book will be available for sale. The free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Peaks Island Library.

Thursday, July 28

BYO PICNIC at the COMMUNITY GARDEN 11:15 am – 12:15 am. Meet at the Trott-Littlejohn Park to enjoy the beauty of the community garden. FMI Call Denise at 766-2970 or dln@portlandmaine.gov. Sponsored by Portland Recreation.

Friday, July 29

OPEN HOUSE: MAKE YOUR OWN ICE CREAM (com. rm) Drop in between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. Make your own vanilla ice cream in 20 minutes or less (w/ lots of shaking!). Open to all ages; young children must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-

2970 or dln@portlandmaine.gov).

Saturday, July 30

SUMMER FLING at the TEIA For your kids: tennis, sailing, youth camp and juniors activities.

Brackett MUM Church Anniversary ISLAND-WIDE GARDEN TOUR: Call church office for more information: 766-5013.

Tuesday, Aug 2

FIRST TUESDAYS BOOK DISCUSSION *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot at the TEIA clubhouse, a delightful change in a beautiful setting. Come in, call or email the library to request a copy of the books.

Saturday, Aug 6

TEIA SUMMER FAIR 10:00am to 1:30 pm. Cookout and kids games with flea market, antiques and raffle table. There is something for everyone! Call Heather 766-5671 for info.

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brio

by Palmer

MONTHLY CAPTION CONTEST: Each month we offer a new BRIO image having no caption so that you can make one up. Below is this month's cartoon. Send your ideas to kattr@islandtimes.org and we'll publish the best. See page 8 for last month's winners.



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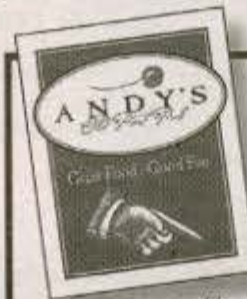
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207-766-3330

director@fifthmainemuseum.org
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Summer 2011

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Contact Susan Hanley at 332-2443, or
susan@peaksislandfiberartscamp.com
www.peaksislandfiberartscamp.com

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